



The Resonator

Official Newsletter of The Fair Lawn (NJ) Amateur Radio Club

Volume 6, Number 10

www.FairLawnARC.org

October 2021

From The President

Dear FLARC Family,

We had a great meeting this past Friday. It was great to see many of you in person and also via Zoom. Our appreciation to Dave KD2JIP for bringing up a notch our "hybrid" meetings – with taking a step up our Zoom meeting and tying it to our in-person group. We're getting there and I know that Dave will continue to get this system at 100%.

Well, for our last quarter we do have exciting things coming to FLARC. Just to mention a few, we'll have our Portable Day along with our friends of the Bergen Amateur Radio Association on Saturday, October 16th at Memorial Park. We do hope you can come and join us and spend several hours of fun and friendship. It is also a wonderful opportunity for our new members to meet the FLARC and BARA family, and also come on and join us on the air. I hope to have the chance to say hi to you in person and "chew the rag" a bit.

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Member Profile

NAME: Nomar Vizcarrondo

CALL: NP4H

What do you do / what did you do for a living?

Currently, I work as a Communications/Media Specialist for Congressman Albio Sires, who represents the 8th Congressional District of NJ. Previously I was in Broadcasting, in a career of close to 40 years, where I worked in Management, Programming and Engineering of Commercial Radio Stations in several Major U.S. Markets and Puerto Rico.



How did you get interested in ham radio?

This happened at the age of 11, in 1978. I was hospitalized for several weeks due to peritonitis. Once recovered, my Dad asked me if there was something that I wanted, and I mentioned a CB radio. He immediately got one, and honestly, I was disappointed of what I heard. One day while

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FLARC To Hold VE Testing On Oct. 9th at INDOOR LOCATION

On Oct. 9, 2021 Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club will continue amateur radio test sessions. These sessions will be held indoors.

The location is at:

The Fair Lawn Recreation Center
10-10 20th Street
Fair Lawn, NJ

NOTE THAT THIS IS AN INDOOR LOCATION!

Covid-19 related incidents will cancel testing.

Prior to Testing:

Send an email to wo2w@arrl.net requesting to book your spot. **Pre-registration is REQUIRED.**

Please Bring With You:

- You **MUST** bring and WEAR personal PPE items including a face mask
- 2 pens and 2 pencils. None will be provided to you due to possible virus transmission
- Your FRN number, and (if licensed) a copy of your ham license or a valid CSCE (Certificate of Successful Completion Exam)
- A completed Form 605 (which will be sent to you ahead of your test session, along with your assigned test time.)
- Additionally, the **\$15.00 exam fee**. This is payable in cash (**exact amount is a must**)
- 3 copies of the CSCE form which will be sent to you ahead of your test session

Additional scheduled testing dates are:
October 9, 2021 and November 13, 2021.

FLARC is following government Covid-19 guidance closely and all events will adhere accordingly to the latest advice.



Fair Lawn Street Fair
originally scheduled for October 17th
has been postponed until 2022 due to
Covid19/Delta

So FLARC will not be setting up a booth for this.

FLARC and Public Service

On September 25-26, FLARC members Karl W2KBF, Lee KD2DRS, and Ed WX2R took part as communications volunteers in the annual Bike MS City to Shore charity bike ride. The 100 mile ride went from Cherry Hill to Ocean City and back in beautiful early Fall weather. Well over 120 hams took part in the coordination of communications and it was a good experience in working a large event.



The Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club

Why Is FLARC New Jersey's Most Exciting Radio Club?

Events

- Field Day
- Winter Field Day
- World Amateur Radio Day
- Portable Days
- Earth Day
- Special events
- Memorial Day parade
- Independence Day fireworks
- Fair Lawn Street Fair(s)
- Ham fests/Auctions
- Foxhunts
- Contests
- Field trips
- Annual holiday party
- ...and more!



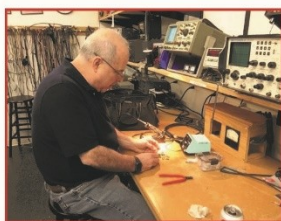
There Is Something Every Night At FLARC!

- Monday: Near and Far Net
- Tuesday: DMR Net
- Tuesday: "Pop Up" Open House/Open Zoom
- Wednesday: ARES/RACES Net
- Wednesday: Health and Welfare Net
- Thursday: Tech Net (with BARA)
- Friday: Kawfee Tawk Speaker Series (monthly)
- Weekends: POTA and other station activations

There is Something for Everyone at FLARC!

Special Interest Groups:

- Portable Ops: POTA, SOTA, etc.
- DX: Chase the rare ones
- Digital Voice: DMR and other digital modes
- FT8: And other WSJT modes
- Satellite: Also, for weather GPS interests
- Monitoring: SWL and other general listening
- And others to come!!



Plus:

- Monthly VE Testing
- An active repeater – W2NPT (linked with NJ2BS)
- New equipment in the shack
- New antennas on the roof
- A five-position operating clubhouse
- Over 72 consecutive months of speaker programs to learn and grow.

That's why FLARC is the best club around!!

Join us in our in-person and in our Zoom Room for more activities, speakers, and projects to come!

FLARC is following Covid-19 government guidance closely and all events and activities will adhere accordingly to the latest advice.

The Club

Fair Lawn ARC is the fastest growing ham club around, with five operating positions in a permanent clubhouse. Visitors and guests are always welcome. The club is open every Friday night from NLT 6:30 PM, except on Fridays when there is a Kawfee Tawk zoom session scheduled. Business meetings are the first Friday of the month at 7:30PM.

2021 Officers, Committees and Assignments

President	Nomar Vizcarrando	NP4H
Vice President	John L. Howard	W2JLH
Treasurer	Bruce Kalogera	NJ2BK
Secretary	Tom McCabe	N2AXX
Trustee	Ed Efchak	WX2R
Trustee	Don Cassarini	K2PD
Trustee	Fred Wawra	W2ABE
Field Day	Steve Wraga	WA2BYX
Member Services	Judith Shaw	KC2LTM
Publicity	Ed Efchak	WX2R
Publicity	Gene Ottenheimer	WO2W
Publicity	Judith Shaw	KC2LTM
Publicity	Susan Frank	W6SKT
Program	Ed Efchak	WX2R
Publicity	Karl Frank	W2KBF
Publicity	Nomar Vizcarrando <i>(ex officio)</i>	NP4H
Social Media	Dave Marotti	NK2Q
Video/YouTube	Thom Guida	W2NZ
VE Liaison	Gene Ottenheimer	WO2W
VE Liaison	Pete Senesi	KD2BMX
Contests	Lowell Vant Slot	W2DLT
Education	Gordon Beattie	W2TTT
Education	Randy Smith	WU2S
Education	John L. Howard	K2JLH
Education	Fred Wawra	W2ABE
History	Fred Belghaus	W2AAB
Health and Welfare	Judith Shaw	KC2LTM
Photographer	Don Cassarini	N2PRT
W2NPT Trustee	Paul Cornett	W2IP
Technical	Paul Cornett	W2IP
Technical	Randy Smith	WU2S
Technical	Fred Wawra	W2ABE
RACES/ARES Director	Dave Gotlib	KD2MOB
RACES/ARES Liaison	Steve Wraga	WA2BYX
Newsletter Editor	Ed Efchak	WX2R
FL Town Liaison	Gene Ottenheimer	WO2W
Net Scheduler	Brian Cirulnick	KD2KLN
Quartermaster	Brian Cirulnick	KD2KLN

Fair Lawn RACES/ARES Corner



Hello fellow ARES members and friends. Fall is here and we have all sorts of outdoor activities coming up. The Northeast New Jersey ARES team (consisting of Fair Lawn ARES, Passaic County ARES and Bergen County ARES) has Northeast New Jersey covered!

Before getting to our upcoming activities, I would like to thank the NENJ ARES members for volunteering for Fair Lawn Fireworks Night which took place on Sunday, September 19th at Memorial Park. Our members assisted FLARC with many of the organizing activities including radio communications, of course.

On Saturday, October 2nd, we performed a successful SET - Simulated Emergency Test. A thank you goes out to all who checked in at 12:00 PM, 3:00 PM and 6:00 PM. We had many contacts and reported the information to John W2VTV, Northern New Jersey ARES Lead Coordinator. Also, a thank you goes out to the Control Operators.

On Saturday, October 16th we will be participating in Portable Day. We plan on demonstrating VARA FM, Fldigi and other formats of communication using portable operations. Please join us and the FLARC at Memorial Park in FairLawn, NJ.

The NENJ ARES Net takes place every Wednesday at 8:00 PM, which is the same time slot and uses the same frequencies as the FL-ARES Net. The new ARES Net combines FL-ARES with Bergen County ARES and Passaic County ARES for one weekly Northeast NJ ARES Net. It

Continued on page 5.

Fair Lawn RACES/ARES Corner,

has come to our attention that combining the Nets would provide greater interest (check-ins), more emergency communications discussion and messaging during one timeframe versus three separate dates and times. Sure enough it has!! I would like to thank Aly ALØY, Ed KD2TVZ and Jim N2JLF for being the Net Control Operators (NCO) or alternate Net Control Operators (ANCO).

I'd like to direct you to a great website which gives us access and information for our training sessions -

<https://harriscountyares.org/training/training.php>

Everything from knowledge based training to safety, weather and messaging is included on this website. When you have the opportunity, please check it out.

Our Nets are open to all amateur radio enthusiasts. Our ARES members, who are volunteers, are able to assist anyone with answers to questions they may have regarding emergency communications. Also, our Nets include members who are not only a part of Fair Lawn ARES, the nets consist of members from Bergen County ARES, Passaic County ARES, Gloucester County ARES and Wayne County ARES as well. Please note the time of the NENJ NJ ARES Net (KB2FLA Net). It takes place on Wednesdays at 2000 hours on the FLARC and NJ2BS Repeaters. Maybe one day the NJ2PC

Fair Lawn RACES/ARES Corner, cont.

Repeater will be connected as well. Please join us every Wednesday for any updates, messages or activities which may take place.

We are on the following Repeaters and Echolink: The Fair Lawn ARC Repeater info is: RX 145.47 MHz / TX 144.87, PL Tone 167.9 Hz. Echolink W2NPT-R. The NJ2BS Repeater info is: RX 146.835 MHz / TX 146.235, PL Tone 151.4 Hz. Echolink KD2BKD-L.

FL-ARES would like to thank the FLARC for the use of its repeater as well as the Venture Crew 73 73 Club for the use of their repeater. We are fortunate to make Fair Lawn and the surrounding communities our home. With our leadership and support from the FLARC we can grow and be of assistance in many community events.

We are always seeking new members to join FL-ARES. Info on FL-RACES is as follows: Our next FL-RACES KB2FLR net will take place on Wednesday, October 13th at 2030 hours on the Fair Lawn ARC Repeater as well as the NJ2BS Repeater (frequencies noted above). Thank you to the Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club for permitting FL-RACES to use the repeater.

FL-RACES is part of several RACES groups which operate within Bergen County and from time to time has training opportunities with Bergen County RACES. We will be the Net Control Operating Station once again in November. We

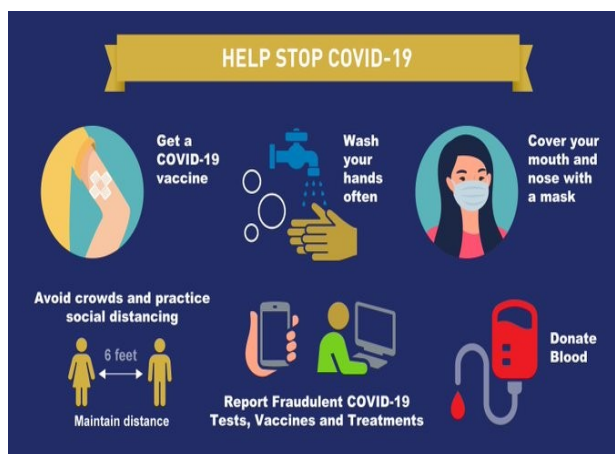
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News You Can Use

The Groups.io app is now available for both iOS and Android. Here are the links:

iOS: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/groups-io-app/id1553820507>

Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=io.groups.webapp>



2021 FLARC Kawfee Tawk Programs

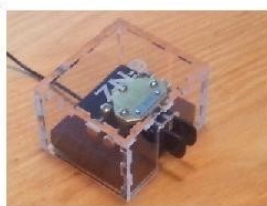
Date	Presenter	Program
Friday, January 15, 2021	Lauren Libby W0LD	Trans World Radio/Operating A Super Station
Friday, February 19, 2021	Ed Efchak WX2R	The FLARC Member Survey
Friday, March 29, 2021	Otis Vincens NP4G	INDEXA
Friday, March 12, 2021	Dave Snyder KD2VGT	Pico Balloons, Ham Radio, and Seton Hall STEM
Friday, April 16, 2021	Wayne Smith WB2ONZ	Amateur Radio and The Civil Air Patrol
Friday, May 14, 2021	Bob Holstrom KD2BKD	Setting up DUDE-Star for Digital Voice Communications
Friday, May 21, 2021	Roland C Luetzelschwab K9LA	Propagation and Cycle 25
Friday, June 11, 2021	Barry Feurman K3EUI	Sound Card Digital Modes
Friday, July 16, 2021	Neil Goldstein W2NDG	Today's Kit Industry –Build Your Own Radio!!
Friday, July 23, 2021	Barry Feurman K3EUI	EMCOMM Needs For Digital Modes
Friday, August 13, 2021	Charlie Cebula AC2ZU	The Story of Project Diana
Friday, August 20, 2021	Larry Van Horn N5FPW	Listening to Military Aircraft via Satellite
Friday, September 10, 2021	Brian Cirulnick KD2KLN	Setting Up A Solar Powered Station (Tentative)
Friday, September 17, 2021	Clint Bradford K6LCS	How to Work Amateur Satellites with Your HT
Friday, September 24, 2021	Ria Jairam N2RJ	Amateur radio in Trinidad and Tobago
Friday, October 15, 2021	Kent Britain WA5VJB	All You Need To Know About Yagi Antennas
Saturday, November 6, 2021	Barry Feurman K3EUI	Beginner's Look at the Nano VNA
Friday, November 12, 2021	Tom Abazia KB2ESE	Building an SDR Transceiver
Saturday, November 13, 2021	Barry Feurman K3EUI	Under the Hood of a Nano VNA
Friday, November 19, 2021	Tom Perera W1TP	SPY Radios and CIA Bugs
Friday, December 10, 2021	Bob Antoniuk N2SU	The History of Callsigns
Friday, December 17, 2021	Rich Moseson W2VU	Thoughts About Growing Amateur Radio

WWW.GIFTS4HAMS.COM

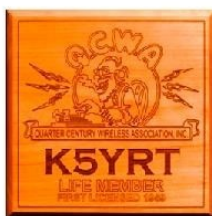
EVERYTHING ENGRAVED FOR THE HAM STATION



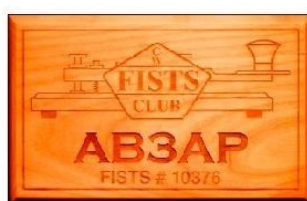
LED SIGNS
CLUBS,
ORGANIZATIONS
& CUSTOM



KEY COVERS
ALL MAKES AND MODELS
BEGALI, N3ZN, VIBROPLEX
KENT, CUSTOM KEYS, ETC.



LASER ENGRAVED
WOOD PLAQUES, CLUBS
SHARED SHACK



PLUS MANY MORE ITEMS !

SIG Group Participation as of September 26, 2021



Hidetsugu Yagi's 130th Birthday Google Doodle

Here is an update on the roster of Special Interest Groups...all groups have increased in size during the last month:

Digital Voice	34
Monitoring	24
DX	19
FT8	19
Satellite	15
EmComm	10
Portable Ops	40
Contesting	new
FLARC General	163

Follow FLARC ON THE WEB

Facebook: <http://facebook.FairLawnARC.org>

Twitter: @FairLawnARC

Blog: <http://blog.FairLawnARC.org>

Youtube: <http://youtube.FairLawnARC.org>

Website: <http://FairLawnARC.org>

Sign up for a group... or ...
why not start one?

Contact webmaster@FairLawnARC.org
if you would like to start a new
Special Interest Group.



"All You Need to Know About Yagi Antennas"

2021 FLARC October 15th "Kawfee Tawk" Series

Yagi antennas, more formally known as Yagi-Uda antennas, are named after their two Japanese inventors. These devices are commonly used in ham radio, TV reception, and as a bridge antenna to connect a site to a Wi-Fi access point. Widely used, they are often little understood as to their capabilities and the potential for which amateurs can take advantage.

Understanding, building, and using antennas is the highest interest topic among FLARC members based on member surveys. We look to find experts in the field, and we are pleased and proud to have Kent Britain WA5VB as our October presenter.

The presentation will be on Friday, October 15, 2021, beginning at 7:30 PM EDT via Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting

Kent is currently the Antenna Editor for *CQ Magazine*. He is an experienced Senior Radio Frequency Engineer and is a designer of a wide array of low-cost, high-performance antennas that are ideal for many applications. He has presented to many groups including a recent appearance at the UK Microwave Society. WA5VJB also has his own website which has antennas and equipment for the microwave bands at <https://www.wa5vjb.com/index.html> - where you can also find his designs.

This talk should be of interest to anyone interested in building their own Yagi antennas for the VHF and UHF bands and learning more about antenna performance.

So, save the date – **Friday, October 15th at 7:30 PM EDT** -- for this important and high interest discussion. For more information, please visit the club's website at www.fairlawnarc.org or call 201-791-3841.



Kent Britain WA5VB



AMATEUR RADIO TESTING BY THE FAIR LAWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

On October 9, 2021 the Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club will continue amateur radio test sessions on a modified basis.

These sessions will be held at the **Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club.**

The location is at 10-10 20th Street, Fair Lawn, NJ

The session starts at 9:15 AM.

A document will be provided to you prior to the date to indicate the time assigned to you.

You must have it with you to take the test.

Prior to Testing:

Send an email to wo2w@arrl.net requesting to book your spot.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED - NO WALK-INS ACCEPTED.

Upon Arrival:

You must have a government issued ID such as a valid driver's license or passport, a filled out Form 605, and **3 filled out copies of the FCC CSCE form.**

Please Bring With You:

- You **MUST** bring and **WEAR** personal PPE items including a face mask.
- 2 pens and 2 pencils. None will be provided to you, due to possible virus transmission.
- Your FRN number, and (if licensed) a copy of your ham license or a valid CSCE (Certificate of Successful Completion Exam).
- Additionally, the **\$15.00 exam fee**. This is payable in cash (exact amount is a must).

Be A FLARC Slacker!!

For immediate communications with members, join the FLARC Slack group. Here is the 'invite' link – needed to get started ...

https://join.slack.com/t/flarcfairlawn-2sm7184/shared_invite/zt-lsd91o69-5jK2M3ICC2~CQS~LNv5ahQ

or the new shortcut at --

<http://bit.ly/FLARC-Slack-signup>

Join up!! Have fun!!

Special Note: *As non-profit, the IRS now requires that we disclose annually the use of paid lobbyists to our members and indicate approximately what percentage of their dues goes toward that. 0% of your 2021 dues payment will be used by the club to directly pay a lobbyist firm to lobby on behalf of all our members regarding pending legislation that impacts our hobby.*

Nomination of 2022 Officer Recommendations from The Nominations Committee

For president: W2JLH
For vice president: KD2JIP
For secretary: N2AXX
For treasurer: NJ2BK
For trustee (3 years): KD2MOB

Section 2.4 Nominating Committee

In the month of September of each calendar year, the Council shall appoint a nominating committee consisting of the two (2) Trustees of the Association whose term is not expiring at the end of the current year. The nominating committee will present its recommendation for the slate of Officers at the October business meeting. After the nominating committee has presented its recommendation, floor nominations will be accepted at this October meeting and floor nominations will also be accepted at the November business meeting. Only voting members in good standing will be accepted for nomination.

Please Note: Operating at W2NPT

Starting in January 2019 club trustees have sign-in sheets for all operating positions. There is a clipboard at Operating Position #1, #2 (digital) and #4 with a form on which to sign up for half-hour time slots. No longer first come-first served, in fairness to all who want to use our club equipment and the new antennas.

Get Direct With FLARC!

Here is a direct link to specific club info: just a click away!

<http://apparel.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://auction.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://blog.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://calendar.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://events.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://exams.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://facebook.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://news.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://swap.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://tech.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://youtube.FairLawnARC.org>

NEW !

<https://groups.io/g/FairLawnARC>



Online License Testing!

Are you looking to get your license or upgrade without leaving your home? All you need is a laptop computer with a video camera.

There are number of sites listed on hamstudy.org/sessions These folks will walk you through taking an exam online.

I have worked with both WB5QNG and AA7HW. If you have any questions, please contact me at Stevenk2sab@gmail.com

73,
Steven Boston K2SAB

October 2021 *Near and Far* Net Controls

Here is the roster for net controls for the upcoming month as reported by Brian KD2KLN:

Date	Net Control
October 6	NP4H
October 13	KD2MOB
October 20	KD2KLN
October 27	N2AAM

But we need more volunteers to be net controls -- if everyone takes their turn it's less burden on the others. And it's easy.

Volunteer --- don't wait to be asked
(unless you really want to be flattered).

Ham Radio Is Contagious And It Won't Make You Sick!!

Brian KD2KLN Discusses Setting Up A Solar Powered Station in September 10th *Kawfee Tawk™*

He said he was nervous.

One could not tell, as Brian KD2KLN walked the club through an informational hour of how to put together a solar powered station.

Outlining batteries, solar panels, charge controllers and the other components needed to get and stay on the air, Brian did a FB job of explaining and recommending do's and don'ts.

How good was the presentation? Some said it was the best KT ever. Others said Brian was "interesting, informative and funny". But one visitor who was at the Gloucester County hamfest the following day said "He was great... I'll never forget 'never pay more than a dollar a watt.'" Thanks Brian!! Looking forward to the YouTube...

Club Apparel — Get Them While They're **RED!**

Club apparel is always in vogue. Red is always "in" and your club friends all have them... you *want* a shirt or jacket for the next FLARC event! Great for Field Day!

Don't forget.... they're easy to order.

Go to www.hamthreads.com

or visit <http://apparel.FairLawnARC.org>

Check out the item selection that is posted on the FLARC website (with pictures and prices). Order the shirts or other items you want with either the regular FLARC logo or the still-cool 60th anniversary logo. Note: **RED** is the primary and preferred club standard shirt color.



Thom W2NZ behind the camera
at the clubhouse in 2019

2021 FLARC Nets On The W2NPT Repeater:

Near and Far Net Mondays at 8PM

Health and Welfare Net Wednesdays at 7PM

W2NPT and NJ2BS Repeaters

Help Wanted

The Publicity Committee is looking for some new members to help continue to improve the marketing and promotion of the club, it's activities and amateur radio. This is an active group so a willingness to participate is a strong plus. Experience in digital marketing and/or public relations is a plus.

Call Ed WX2R at 802-282-6700 or email him at wx2r@arrl.net if you're interested.

Remember: Ham Radio Is A Contact Sport!

BEQUEATHS AND DONATIONS

Planned gifts usually imply the family donation of amateur equipment to the club when someone has become a Silent Key. But it can be more. Club members might consider making a gift through a will or trust; gifts that help provide lifetime income to the club. Consult with your lawyer, estate planner or tax advisor if you feel such a gift is worthy.

About The Club

The Resonator is published monthly and is the official (and only) newsletter of The Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club. FLARC was established in 1956 and has met continuously since inception. **The club is sponsored by the Borough of Fair Lawn.** The club meets every Friday at 6PM at the club station in The Fair Lawn Community Center, 10-10 20th Street, Fair Lawn, NJ. Business meetings are the first Friday of the month at 7:30 PM at the club, and on Zoom until December.

Visitors **ARE ALWAYS** welcome at our meetings.

FLARC operates the W2NPT repeater (145.470-PL **167.9**) located high atop the Community Center. The analog repeater is open to all amateurs for use without restrictions.

The club has over one hundred fifty paid members.
Dues are currently \$25 per year;
 \$20 for new members.

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A Weekly Welfare net ...

The Health and Welfare Umbrella Net
Wednesdays
7PM Local
W2NPT and NJ2BS Repeaters
Open To All

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE NEWS

The Publicity Committee is seeking new members to help grow the club with its varied activities. Enthusiasm desired... no experience necessary. Contact Ed WX2R or any other committee member.



FAIR LAWN'S
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER!
With New Antennas On The Roof!



Past FLARC Member Profiles

Here is a list of past member features and we welcome your recommendations for new profiles -- including your own.

Month	Name	Call Sign
January 2016	Pete	KB2BMX
February	Marco	KC2ZMA
March	Ron	KC2TBD
April	Kai	K2TRW
May	Larry	WA2ALY
June	Dave	N8MAR
July	Steve	W12W
August	Thom	W2NZ
September	Brian	KD2KLN
October	Brad	KM2C
November	Al	WA2OWL
December	George	W3EH
January 2017	Fred	W2ABE
February	Dave	KD2MOB
March	Randy	WU2S
April	Lee	KD2DRS
May	Gene	WO2W
June	Carol	KD2NMV
July	Kevin	KC2KCC
August	Robert	KD2NOG
September	Robert	KD2BKD
October	John	KD2NRS
November	Fred	W2AAB
December	Margaret	W2GB
January 2018	Brian	KD2OAZ
February	Bennett	KO2OK
March	Van	W2DLT
April	Aly	ALØY
May	Bruce	NJ2BK
June	Dave	N2AAM
July	Karl and Susan	W2KBF and W2SKT
August	Steve	KA2YRA
September	Paul	K2PJC
October	Skip	KD2BRV
November	Jim	W2JC
December	Tom	N2AAX

By the way, Randy (WU2S) has compiled a binder of all back issues of *The Resonator* and it's located in the club office.

Thanks Randy!!!

2019-20 Member Profiles

The year is now complete and here is a list of the 2019 monthly profiles. See past profiles elsewhere in *The Resonator* to check back in the archives to see each featured member's background.

Month	Name	Call Sign
January 2019	Dave	KD2JIP
February	Jim	K2ZO
March	Zach	KC2RSS
April	Bob	N2SU
May	Stan	KC2K
June	Steve	WA2BYX
July	Roger	K2RRB
August	Judith	KC2LTM
September	Chris	W2TU
October	Bob	N2SU
November	Bob	WA2ISE
December	Carol	KD2NMV
January 2020	Gordon	W2TTT
February	Chris	KD2JQZ
March	Glenn	KD2MDR
April	Steve	K2SAB
May	Ahmed	NJ8Y
June	Charlie	AC2ZU
July	Jim	N2JLF
August	Walt	K3DQB
September	Gregg	N2ECH
October	Jim	W2KNG
November	Dave	KD2SGM
December	Bill	NB1ILL

2021 Member Profiles

Here is a list of the 2021 monthly profiles.

Month	Name	Call Sign
January 2021	Ed	KD2TVT
February	John	W2USN
March	Noel	W2MSA
April	Gene	KD2VNI
May	Berlotte	KD2MYF
June	Noel	N2OEL
July	Roy	KD2VMX
August	Jeremy	K2GRI
September	Bill	WA2WL
October		
November		
December		

Member Profile, continued

visiting a close dear family friend, he tells my dad and me to come back and see his "new toy." My dad's friend was a Ham Radio Operator and showed us his new Yaesu FT-301D. I started asking questions and was explained the difference between this and CB and I told my Dad that "this is what I really want." So school was about to end for the year and during the summer vacation, Luis, KP4EBJ (SK) became my Elmer; he taught me CW and the Novice License theory and around September I received from the FCC in Gettysburg, PA that envelope/slip that had my brand new callsign – **WP4AFJ**.

What parts of the hobby most interest you?

Thanks to my Elmer, since day one I became very much interested in CW. But along with that I enjoy working HF and DXing, Contesting, VHF, UHF, you name it... I've tried a little bit of everything in Ham Radio including Amateur Television. In Puerto Rico I was part of a group that helped put on the air one of the first ATV Repeaters on the Island. What I really haven't explored much and do want to give it try very soon is working the birds (satellites) up above.

What help or information do you need that the club could provide to really get involved with ham radio?

I can say that during the past few years as a member of FLARC, everything that I was looking for in a club, for years, was available to me. From day one, this stranger that walked in the door was well received. I was able to make new friends - which to me have become family - and the opportunity of learning was also offered. You may be a seasoned ol' timer, but you always learn something new every day.

There is a vast array of members with knowledge of different aspects of the hobby and have not been held back in sharing that knowledge and helping me become a better amateur radio operator. So making this the friendliest club in the Garden State is a reality and I am proud to be part of it and also to the

Continued on page 40.

FLARC August 14, 2021 VE Testing Results

With VE testing back on schedule, Gene WO2W reports the following results:

Name	Call	License Earned
Daniel Radcliffe	—	Technician
Robert DelGreco	WØXOU	General
Augustine Arocho	N2FXT	Extra
Luisa Adely	—	Technician

Testing for October will be indoors, at the Fair Lawn Recreation Center - with "Covid Restrictions."

See page 2 of this Resonator copy, and also the FLARC website for the latest details.

Eight Special Interest Groups [SIGs] Already Formed: Any Others?

We may be in lockdown but there is no lack of club interest. So far, the Radio Monitoring Group has 24 members and a Digital Voice Modes group thanks to KD2DRS and NP4H. There is also an FT8 SIG. And a POTA SIG headed up by Noel W2MSA plus a DX SIG managed by John W2JLH. Recently formed: EmComm (Emergency Communications). And new for October: the Contesting SIG, managed by Van W2DLT.

Other possible groups, from the member survey, include:

- *Radio Propagation*
- *Antennas and how they work*
- *Kit building*
- *Raspberry pi and Arduino*
- *Ham radio software)*

Anyone interested in leading any of these groups...?

Please contact webmaster@FairLawnARC.org

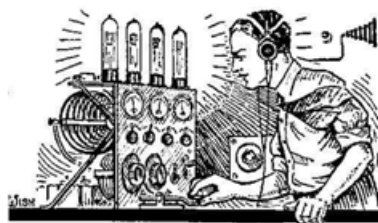


Image from May, 1926 QST, courtesy ARRL

The Way We Were

By Fred Belghaus W2AAB

More Stories from Old QSLs

History can be found in traces everywhere. Old ham radio magazines and QSL cards are probably the best sources for a look at our past. This month, we have a miscellany of curious cards, each with their own stories.

A Curious QSO

Our first curiosity comes from the town of Ashland, Oregon – a small city of roughly 21,000 souls located some 16 miles north of the border with California, in the foothills of the Siskiyou and Cascade mountains. It is known chiefly for its Oregon Shakespeare Festival, shops, and art galleries. Politically, it consists mainly of Democrats, with a handful of very lonely Republicans. [1]

This QSL dated 1942 tells an interesting story:

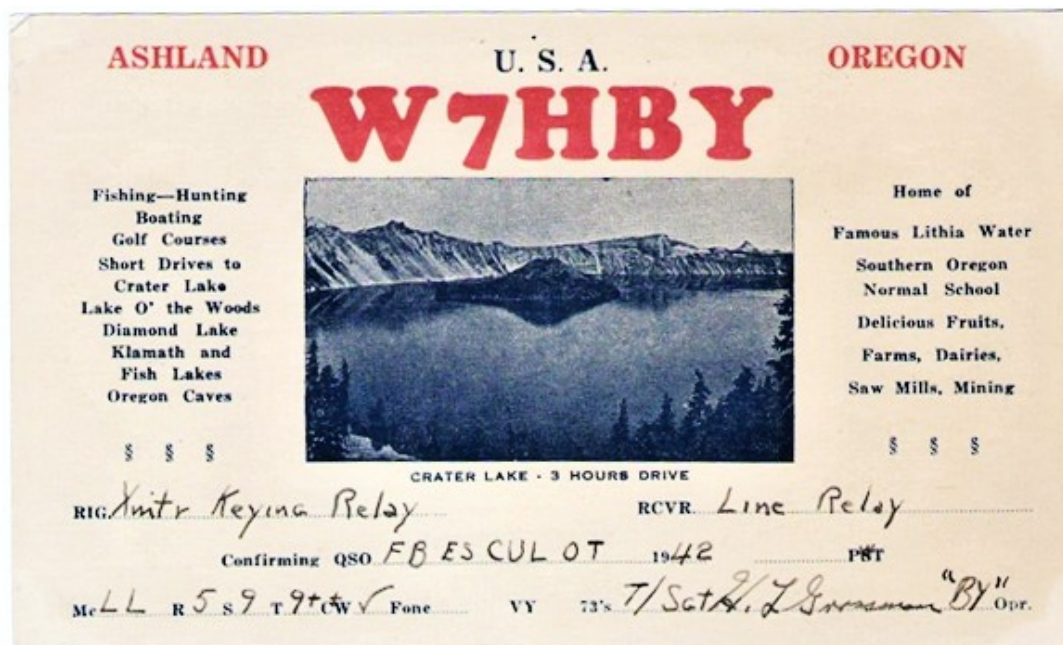


Image: eBay

Take a close look at the card. Note first, that the date is in 1942, during World War II, when all HF ham activity was temporarily shut down by the F.C.C. For the rig, it states “XMTR: Keying Relay,” and for receiver, “Line Relay.” For the frequency band “Mc” (Megacycles) the operator states “LL,” meaning landline.

These are telegraph line terms, not radio.

The Way We Were, continued.

These details could mean one of two things. Either the “QSO” took place via a private wire telegraph line or via carrier current. During World War II, regular amateur radio operation was shut down, except for those authorized to operate as part of the War Emergency Radio Service (W.E.R.S.) — which consisted of VHF nets with special, non-amateur call signs, and using low power. Amateurs could, however, also communicate on other frequencies via carrier current, using self-assigned call letters, and provided they operated in accordance with applicable regulations. Typical “made up” call signs used on carrier current were “WW2ZAA,” the “WW2” of course relating to the War.

Private telegraph lines were first set up in the 1800s, and were the original form of private electrical communication. Those installing telegraph systems for private use might well be considered the first “amateur” communicators, decades before the first radio amateurs existed. The use of a private telegraph line in 1942 as a means of ham communication was rare; in fact, this QSL card is, in my personal experience, totally unique in that respect. At least, it is the only documented example I have known.

The only other possibility might be the use of carrier current communication; but with a telegraph relay or sounder as the “transducer” in place of headphones or loudspeaker. Not so strange, considering that the American Morse Club has nets on the ham bands using sounders at each end of the QSO instead of other devices to hear the messages. Today, American Morse operators also communicate via the internet, also using sounders driven by electronic circuits.

Carrier current communication dates from the 1920s, when it was first tried on a commercial basis. These systems used existing A.C. power lines as an imperfect “antenna” to cover short distances. Basically, the output of a low power transmitter (generally 25 Watts or so) was indirectly coupled to the power line outlet through a pair of high voltage mica capacitors. To this day, some systems utilize the neutral of a three wire system as well.

Carrier current systems originally carried telemetry data sent by the power companies. Later, at least one attempt was made to provide radio entertainment to paid subscribers using the carrier current method; but the project ultimately failed, because there were many more program offerings available via the “free” radio of standard AM broadcasting. To this day, power companies use their transmission lines for multiplexed carrier systems sending data. This is known as “PLC” or Power Line Carrier systems.

Colleges, schools, businesses, and hospitals also used carrier current systems for short-range broadcasting, and even “baby monitors” have used them. Generally, signals can be received over a range of several hundred feet, but they were usually stopped when

The Way We Were, continued.

the signals reached a pole transformer. Only when there was a high pass filter at the pole transformer would the signal travel beyond that, only to be stopped at another pole transformer without a high pass filter.

This was because carrier current communications are normally confined to the Low and Medium Frequency range just below the AM broadcast band, typically from 200 to 400 kiloHertz. College broadcasters use the standard AM broadcasting frequencies. Obviously, the 60 Hertz AC power would be passed, but nothing much higher, without high pass filtering.

Amateurs using carrier current during World War II could generally only communicate with other local stations, especially in cities; but in rural or semi-rural areas, it might be miles between pole transformers, thus allowing communication over greater distances.

Several years ago, FLARC had an “Old Timer’s Night” in which some of us who’d been members years ago recounted some of our experiences in the club from years back. One of the participants was an amateur from the Radburn section of town who reported that before he was licensed, he operated a carrier current station from his home during the Second World War. He stated that he had regular QSOs with another station in Hackensack, a seemingly amazing feat using carrier current. But not really surprising, considering that Fair Lawn was semi-rural in those days, and several miles over a power line before reaching a pole transformer would certainly have been possible.

The role of carrier current communication by amateurs has been mostly ignored by historians. For example, an article in *QST Magazine* covering the history of amateur radio in the United States during World War II makes only passing reference to the use of carrier current by amateurs, which was then known as “wired wireless.” [2] Much more information can be found by referring to A.R.R.L. Handbooks during the period 1942 through 1945, where there are many designs of carrier current transmitters and receiving converters built by hams.

For many years, college radio stations used carrier current systems to carry programming to their dorms before receiving a Non-Commercial FM license. A company in Pennsylvania, Low Power Broadcasting (LPB), specialized in manufacturing carrier current transmitters. These usually ran 25 to 50 Watts output. At my Alma Mater, Fairleigh Dickinson in Teaneck, our original radio station, WFDU, used a number of these LPB transmitters at the various dorms throughout the campus until the F.C.C. granted our FM station license on 89.1 MHz.

The Way We Were, continued.

Here's a typical circuit for a carrier current transmitter of the 1950s and '60s:

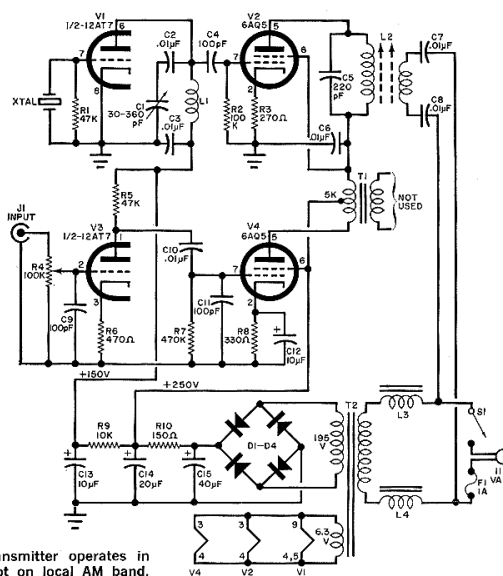


Fig. 1. Transmitter operates in a quiet spot on local AM band.

PARTS LIST

- | | |
|---|--|
| C1—30–360-pF variable capacitor | R4—100,000-ohm potentiometer |
| C2, C3, C6, C7, C8, C10—0.01- μ F disc capacitor (see text for C7 and C8) | R6—470-ohm, 1-watt resistor |
| C4, C9, C11—100-pF capacitor | R7—470,000-ohm, $\frac{1}{2}$ -watt resistor |
| C5—220-pF capacitor | R8—330-ohm, 1-watt resistor |
| C12, C13,—10- μ F, 400-volt electrolytic capacitor | R9—10,000-ohm, 2-watt resistor |
| C14—0.05- μ F, 400-volt electrolytic capacitor | R10—150-ohm, 2-watt resistor |
| C15—40- μ F, 400-volt electrolytic capacitor | S1—Spot switch |
| D1-D4—600-PRV, J-A silicon diode | T1—Push-pull, 10-watt audio output transformer (B4 13A862 or similar) |
| F1—1-A fuse and holder | T2—Power transformer; secondaries: 195 V rms and 6.3 V (McGee TR-2.5 or similar) |
| J1—Phono connector | YAL—1050-Hz crystal (Aln Crystals 2400 Crystal Drive, Ft. Meyers, Fla.) |
| L1-L4—Loopstick antenna (see text) | Misc.—Suitable cables, crystal microphone, line cord, terminal strips, mounting hardware, etc. |
| R1, R2, R3—470-ohm, 1-watt resistor | |

Image: http://www.geocities.ws/raiu_harrison/mwa/tech/circuits/xmitter3.html

Original source unknown

Another Oddity

Sometimes, as hams, we contact stations again after many years have passed. In this example, Portuguese ham CT1OI worked Norwegian ham LA4K a second time, thirty years apart.

First QSO, July 14, 1935...

Geistein Johannessen
QRA. p.t. Halden.
To RADIO CT 1 CI.
This confirms the reception of your CW on 14 7 193 5 at 2125 GMT
QSA 5 R 7-4T 6 QSX Modulation QRG 12 Mc
QRM QRN QSB slite QSC WX fb
Transmitter. Receiver.
Copa 1 - v - 1
Input 15 Watts
at 400 Volts
QRH 14300 Mc
Aerial: 40 mts.
Aer. curr Amps
Code: RADIO.
Tks fr qso, dr om. Hpe cuagn sn. Best dx.
NRRL OSLO 1-IX-965 30amps 73 fm Op. Dec. 7.

The Way We Were, continued.

Second QSO, September 1, 1965...



Images: eBay

CT101 has written comments on these cards chronicling the two QSOs. The cards from LA4K are almost identical, but I doubt that he was still using a homebrew transmitter running only 15 Watts with a 3 tube homemade regenerative receiver in 1965!

What fascinates me is thinking of all the history that passed between these two contacts. I think, especially, of the period following the 1935 contact and what happened in Norway less than five years later. In April, 1940 Hitler's Army began its occupation of Norway.

Norway had maintained its neutrality during World War I, and hoped to remain neutral while the war raged in Europe. In 1935, the Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Halvdan Koht, clearly stated their intention to stay out of the conflict. [3] So it must have been a terrible shock to see the jackbooted Nazis arriving by foot, boats and planes, invading the Norwegian towns and villages in 1940.

Attempts to preserve the government of Norway were undertaken by negotiations between government officials and with King Haakon – which produced no decisive results. Government officials hid in safe places, but ultimately the King fled to England and the Norwegian resistance began almost immediately, with guerrilla attacks on German forces. Meanwhile, Vidkun Quisling, a supporter of the Nazi ideology since the 1930s, assumed a key role in the national Government via his "National Union" Party. On the day that German occupation began, Quisling broadcast a message declaring himself to be head of the Norwegian government. His cooperation with the Nazis marked him for life as a traitor; and to this day, one who cooperates with the enemy is known as a Quisling. But Quisling's tactics only succeeded in unifying most Norwegians against him and the Nazis. [4]

The Way We Were, continued.



German officers before the National Theatre in Oslo, 1940

Image: *Wikipedia*

Instead, it was King Haakon, operating from England, who was the greatest inspiration to the resistance movement. He was already an admired figure, but his encouragement stirred massive acts of nonviolent resistance. When ordered by German soldiers to perform some task, those resisting simply refused to cooperate, even despite violent reprisals. These acts of nonviolent resistance frustrated Nazi attempts to manage the country, sometimes at a terrible human cost. The Nazis confiscated all registered radios; but to remain informed of war conditions, radios were obtained secretly (or home built), then well hidden. Their chief sources of news were the BBC and Swedish radio stations. Rallies, mass protests, letters of open defiance, and other tactics of the resistance continued until the occupation finally ended in June, 1945, when Germany surrendered to the Allies. [5]

Portugal, meanwhile, was untouched by war in 1935. By 1939, although there was an existing alliance with the British government, Britain did not ask for Portugal's

The Way We Were, continued.

assistance in the war, so they remained officially neutral until 1944. But by 1943, Portugal had leased some military bases in the Azores to the British government, providing key outposts for British air forces to attack U-Boats in the Atlantic. In 1945, an American air base was added, which is still operating today on a joint American-Portuguese basis. [6]

Although Portugal was not involved in the hostilities, it played a significant role as a place of safe passage for refugees fleeing the Nazis in Europe. By 1940, about one million refugees passed through its borders from France, Poland and other countries, the majority of those successfully fleeing ending up in Palestine and the United States. In 1944, an additional one thousand Jewish refugees from Hungary were given safe passage through Portugal. [7]

Collaborating With Evil

We radio amateurs are, ultimately, no better or worse than other human beings. But sometimes, either out of moral cowardice or simply for wishing to “belong,” we surrender our better natures and collaborate with evil. This was certainly true in countries where cruel, totalitarian or authoritarian governments either shut us down entirely, or asked for our cooperation with the government. In such places, amateurs have been often “asked” to give cooperation in order to keep their cherished amateur radio privileges. In the former Soviet Union, for instance, no legal amateur operation was permitted until the 1920s, and even then one had to be a member in good standing of the Communist Party to become licensed. This practice continued for many years, finally coming to an end during the Premiership of Nikita Khrushchev (1950s to ‘60s).



Typical Soviet QSL of the 1930's: Ships, planes, grandiose buildings, and Ernst Krenkl

The Way We Were, continued.

In the 1950s Ernst Krenkl was replaced by Alexei Stepanovich Popov, the Russian “inventor” of radio, and images of “Sputnik 1,” the first satellite. By the 1960s Soviet QSLs were still featuring ships, planes, grandiose buildings and Popov, but also decorated military heroes, including images of Yuri Gagarin, the first man in space.

But Nazi Germany was another story.

During this unhappy period, Minister of Propaganda Joseph Goebbels saw an opportunity to spread the loathsome Nazi program to the whole world by enlisting the cooperation of German radio amateurs. Goebbels knew that amateurs were knowledgeable as radio technicians, with additional knowledge of the Morse code, and were thus useful to the government. With these qualifications, he expected amateurs to easily propagandize the message of Nazi “superiority” via the ham bands. [8]

The government began by infiltrating radio clubs, starting with the D.A.S.D. (Deutscher Amateur-Sende-und-Empfangs-Dienst), [9] which was the national amateur radio organization in Germany during the period. Then, local radio clubs were infiltrated, excluding Jews and other “undesirables” from membership. Those who cooperated were permitted to continue operating during the War. [10]

Some eagerly went along with this, believing that they would continue to keep operating, and proudly displayed their Nazi connections on their QSL cards, as can be seen by the following examples:



The Way We Were, continued.

How ironic it is that D4ARR, one of these “good Germans” was located in Nuremberg, where the famous trials would take place of key Nazi officials after the end of the War.

But Goebbels’ plan would ultimately fail. He had no conception that a real amateur radio contact would include little more than a signal report, name, QTH, description of rig and power, antenna, a request for a QSL, and probably then just 73, and on to another contact. The project also collapsed for another, more serious reason. Those who finally resisted Goebbels’ absurd notions of propagandizing other amateurs of the world ended up being beaten, arrested, sent to concentration camps, or simply murdered by Nazi thugs. [11] A fine example of “overreach” by government authoritarians. It is unknown how many German amateurs suffered these fates, but it would be a significant contribution to amateur radio history to find out.

For a detailed and highly interesting historical study of amateur radio in Germany during this period, please see the reference at Note 9.

A Secret Mission

An otherwise mundane looking QSL card from an American amateur operating Maritime Mobile in 1963 conceals a story of intrigue, covert operations, political assassination, and a government cover-up. Here it is:

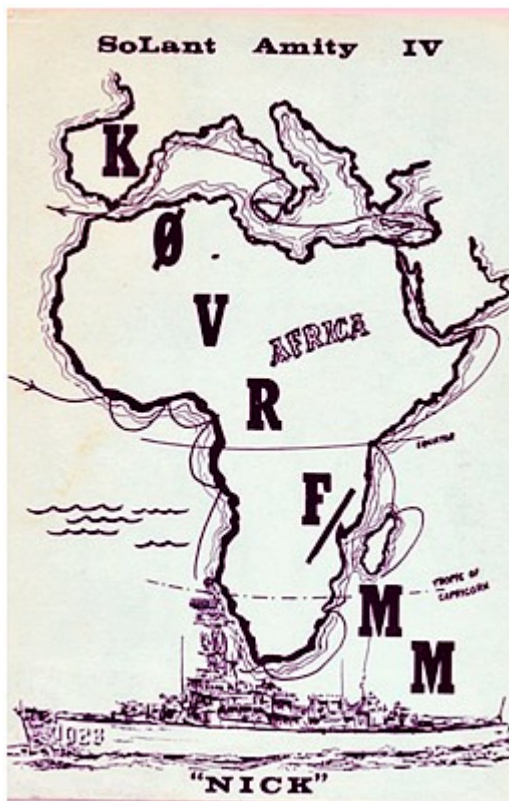


Image: eBay

The Way We Were, continued.

All that on a QSL card? Well, no, it's not openly proclaimed for all to see, but my research reveals some interesting facts. The clues to this mystery are on the other side.

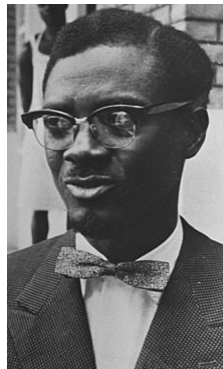
The key to the mystery lies in the date of the contact: March 24, 1963. The ship is identified only as "South Atlantic Amity IV" and beneath that "Operation Handclasp." The ship was known to the military as "Solant Amity IV." In reality, it was the "Spiegel Grove LSD-32." At the time of the contact, it was en route from Pointe Noire, Congo to Cape Town, South Africa. [12]

There were four Amity cruises by the U.S. Marine Corps. Starting in 1957, these ships performed routine training exercises. But beginning in July, 1960 a "crisis response" by the Marines' L Company's 3rd Battalion and 2nd Marine regiment, along with a helicopter unit, were dispatched to the Congo, thus beginning the use of the term "Solant Amity Cruises," part of a United Nations peacekeeping mission. The Congo had just achieved its independence from Belgium, when certain elements within the Congolese military revolted, thus sending the nation into civil unrest. The Marine Corps and U.S. Navy quickly began evacuating Western nationals. The U.S.S Wasp was first dispatched to the Congo to conduct photographic and mapping operations, in preparation for an amphibious landing. [13]

Several other missions were carried out by the "Solant Cruises," including providing famine relief work and evacuations. Meanwhile, Congolese Prime Minister Patrice Lumumba appealed to the United States and the United Nations for assistance in putting down the Katanga Province secessionist movement, led by Moise Tshombe.

The Way We Were, continued.

The U.S. and U.N. refused to help because it was thought that Lumumba had Communist leanings. Lumumba then turned to the Soviet Union for assistance, thus cementing the West's idea as to his ideology. Lumumba then attempted to escape to Stanleyville, but was captured, tortured, and assassinated on January 17, 1961. [14]



Patrice Lumumba in 1960

Image: *Wikipedia*

The next deployment (as a "Good Will Mission") was in February of 1963. That deployment was "Solant Amity IV," which included 53 Marines from Camp Lejeune on Spiegel Grove LSD-32 from the Congo to Cape Town (as referenced on KØVRF's QSL card). Its next destinations were Lourenco Marques [Mozambique], Dar es Salaam [Tanganyika], Durban [South Africa], Cape Town again, Tristan da Cunha Island, Recife [Brazil], Port of Spain [Trinidad], St. Thomas [U.S. Virgin Islands], and finally Little Creek Naval Amphibious Base, Virginia. [15]

But the unhappy story related here has one further element, the role of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. According to the prevailing Cold War mentality of the day, Patrice Lumumba's long association with the Congo independence movement marked him early as a possible problem for U.S. Foreign Policy. It was feared that since Lumumba sought independence from Western control, he might be lured into a political or economic association with the Soviets. Even then, the belief was that Lumumba should be removed, if necessary, by assassination, thus preventing Soviet entry in the Congo. All this was taking place at about the same time as Fidel Castro's Communist revolution in Cuba. [16]

Investigations by the Church Committee, led by Senator Frank Church in 1975, went on record as stating that C.I.A. Director Allen Dulles had himself ordered the assassination of Lumumba, either by poisoning or shooting. A later statement by the minute-keeper for the National Security Council revealed that the idea of assassinating Lumumba had first been floated by then President Dwight D. Eisenhower to C.I.A. Director Dulles before leaving the White House in 1960. Dulles had allocated a budget of \$100,000 to

The Way We Were, continued.

carry out the assassination, but fate intervened; the C.I.A.'s plans were not carried out, and Lumumba was killed by his own political rivals in the Congo. [17]

Despite Lumumba's claims of neutrality towards both the West and the Soviets, in 1961 the U.S.S.R. issued a commemorative stamp honoring his memory.



U.S.S.R. Commemorative Lumumba stamp, 1961

Image: *Wikipedia*

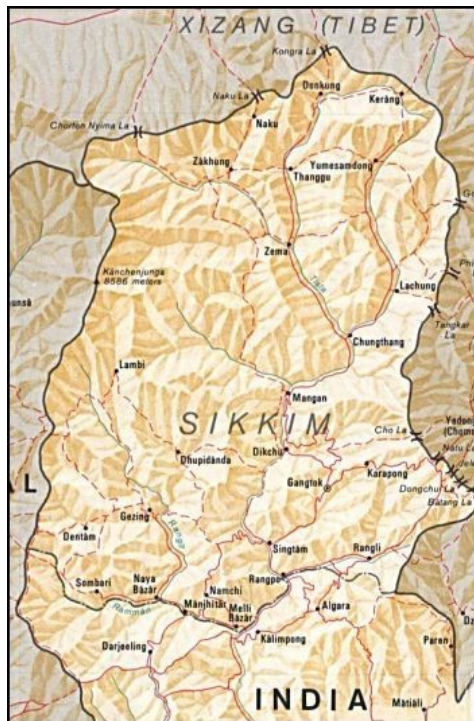
Since then, several other countries have issued commemorative stamps and coins in his honor, and the People's Friendship University of the U.S.S.R. was renamed Patrice Lumumba People's Friendship University in 1961. [18]

One final point: The QSL card refers to "Operation Handclasp." But this was a joint effort by the U.S. Air Force and Navy to demonstrate military weaponry to Asian military and political leaders. It was conducted in 1958, not 1963, as the QSL card states. [18] There was another project known as "Project Handclasp," which was a program of the U.S. Navy to provide humanitarian aid to poor countries in need, and as a public relations effort in support of U.S. Navy personnel in those countries. More importantly, it was part of their normal counterinsurgency operations, and started in 1962. [19] I think the operator of KØVRF was simply confusing one program with the other. Or was he?

The Ancient Kingdom That Isn't Anymore

This might apply to a number of former nations, but one of them captures my imagination more than others. The country was Sikkim, located in the Eastern Himalayas bordering Bhutan, the Tibet Autonomous Region of China, and Nepal.

The Way We Were, continued.



1981 map of Sikkim

Image: Wikipedia

Sikkim was established as a Buddhist kingdom in the 17th Century by the Namgyal-Chigyal dynasty. Historically, the Indian State of Darjeeling was once part of Sikkim and remained so until 1835, when the British, who had been occupying India, annexed Darjeeling. Even when India won its independence from the British Empire in 1947, Sikkim remained a protectorate of India. By the mid 1950s, a new Constitution brought about a move within the government bureaucracy to bring the monarchy to an end, which they eventually did in 1975, thus ending the reign of Chogyal (King) Palden Namgyal Thodup. Sikkim then was annexed by India, as its 22nd State. [20]

But who was Palden Namgyal Thodup, former King of Sikkim? In 1962, India and China went to war. Sikkim, although a protectorate of India, suffered from skirmishes occurring with Red Chinese troops at the Nathula pass, which borders India. When Chogyam (King) Tashi Namgyal died of cancer in 1963, the throne of Sikkim passed to his son, Palden Namgyal Thodup. P.T. Namgyal, as he was commonly called, married the American socialite Hope Cook, and assumed his duties as monarch. But as has been stated, there were already stirrings afoot in the government that the monarchy be dissolved. Furthermore, with the death of Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, Namgyal lost an important ally in the protection of the monarchy. Adding to the stresses already plaguing Namgyal, his American wife published an article endorsing the return of certain Sikkimese properties. Namgyal, now in despair, turned to alcohol, and lost further credibility with the government, as well as any potential allies in India. [21]

The Way We Were, continued.



P.T. Namgyal and American wife, Hope Cook

Image: <https://www.passblue.com/2015/07/22/a-small-himalayan-kingdom-remembers-its-lost-independence/>

In 1973, there were riots at the Royal Palace and Namgyal's government requested protection from India. But India feared that Sikkim's unstable state might lead to political ties with China, possibly resulting in the annexation of Sikkim by the Autonomous Region of Tibet, and therefore become Chinese territory. In response, India appointed an administrator, who effectively removed power from Namgyal. [22] Namgyal was deposed, and found refuge in the United States, settling in New York City.

If the name P.T. Namgyal sounds familiar to you "old timers," it should. For many years, Namgyal was an active radio amateur, holding the call AC3PT. Here's one of his now very rare QSL cards:

SIKKIM

AC3PT

Sikkim Press 294-74 Gangtok

RADIO	DATE	GMT	RST	2 WAY	MC
DL 6 FF / YB6	6 April 75	1517	58	SSB	14

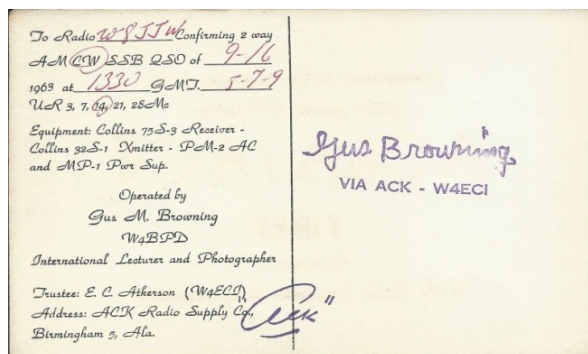
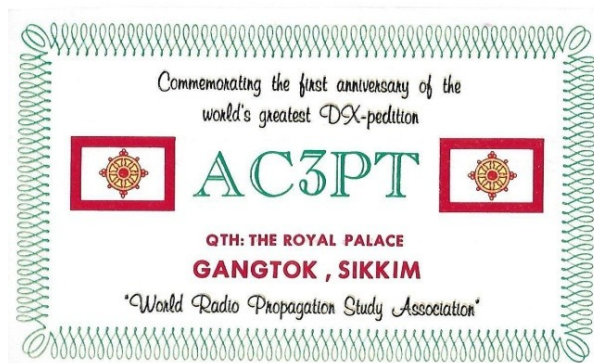
TNX QSO + QSL!

P. T. NAMGYAL
THE PALACE
GANGTOK

44

The card is dated April 1975, just a short time before Namgyal would be deposed. Only one known DXpedition was organized to Sikkim, using Namgyal's call, in 1963, with the well known Gus Browning, W4BPD, as operator.

The Way We Were, continued.



While it existed, Sikkim was one of the “rarest of the rare” DX countries on the air.

It is interesting to note that Namgyal once requested the assistance of the United States, in an effort to preserve his monarchy and prevent annexation by India. He received none, thus prompting his suspicions that the C.I.A. was either behind, or in full support of Indian annexation. [23] Incidentally, following Namgyal’s resettlement in New York, he never again obtained another amateur radio license.

Thus ends the story of the Ancient Kingdom That Isn’t Anymore, a very rare DX entity, and of this month’s The Way We Were.

Until next month,

73,

Fred W2AAB

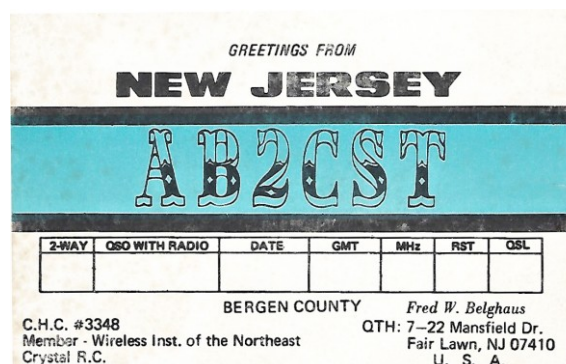
You may wonder why the call AC3PT was not a U.S. call, because there are many stations today having that AC3 prefix. The reason is that the F.C.C. released the call sign prefix block AA thru AL for amateur stations for the first time in the early 1970s. The first use of these by amateurs was in 1976, during the U.S. Bicentennial year. We were permitted to use these prefixes according to an established list, depending on our assigned calls, and without having to request permission. It was the only time that a special prefix was allowed to be used by all U.S. amateurs without special permission. Here are some examples: AA = WA; AB = WB; AC = W; AD = K; AK = WN. Hawaii’s KH6 became AH6 and Alaska’s KL7 became AL7 that year.

For a complete list of all these special prefixes for 1976, see this link:

<http://onetuberadio.com/2016/01/01/1976-bicentennial-call-signs/>

Later, when the W and K prefixes for Extra Class calls were used up, the F.C.C. began issuing calls with such prefixes, first as 2x1 calls, then 2x2 calls.

Here’s my own QSL from 1976 using the AB2 prefix, printed by Gus Browning’s (W4BPD) QSL printing service.:



The Way We Were, continued.

NOTES

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Around the Shack

Hal Kennedy N4GG/4

Trouble Above - Pulley Below

Last month I wrote about some of the dangerous ham-radio-related things I've done over the past 60 years. One topic in that column might have left a wrong impression however, so a few additional words are necessary. The topic is the dangers associated with tower work.

I suggested equipping oneself as the professionals do. Professionals use a hard hat, safety belt, steel-toed work boots, gloves, a fall arrester, a secondary tie-off rope, a deep tool bag, an assistant, training and experience. I asked: "What hams among us actually do all this?" I'm afraid we all know the answer to that question. Most of us do some of it; nearly none of us do all of it.

What was not mentioned last month is that professionals, using all the personal protection equipment listed above together with best-practice safety procedures and tower equipment, still find themselves in trouble from time to time. How much trouble? Commercial tower deaths average 10 per year. (Source: Wirelessestimators.com)

This column is not the place for a complete discussion of tower safety. There are books on the subject. But there is one specific hazard I'd like to address. One that's important, typically ignored and can be avoided. The hazard I'm referring to is the hazard to the ground crew from things occurring above them. Standing at or near the base of a tower is dangerous and unnecessary. Things fall. Hard hats offer limited protection for the head and no protection for the shoulders. Things as small as nuts and bolts pose risk when falling from significant heights. Heavier things can have fatal consequences.

Here is the story of a tower incident that occurred at my friend Jim Garrett's (WB4VVF*) QTH in the 1970s. It's relevant today; the basics never change. Jim was into DXing and owned a 125 foot tower at that time. The 1970s saw the advent of two-meter repeaters and DX clubs saw those as "the new thing" to pass spotting information. Jim graciously volunteered the top of his tower for the Central Florida DX Association's (CFDXA) first repeater. Jim was installing the CFDXA repeater antenna above his TH6DXX HF antenna when the latter broke free and fell 125 feet. Jim was uninjured but he did have a bird's eye view of the disaster unfolding below him.

I don't recall what caused WB4VVF's large tribander to break free but I clearly remember N4SA (sk) and I were the ground crew and standing near the base of the tower. Also, I don't recall what our first indication of trouble was. One of us might have been watching the top of the tower (as we should) or perhaps we simply heard a loud snap or a bang. Either way, the 125 foot fall of the TH6DXX caught our attention and our time to react was at most a few seconds.

I grabbed N4SA by the arm and we dove for WB4VVF's open garage door. The tribander wound up a tangled wreck, partly on Jim's driveway and partly on the roof of the garage. We were lucky. Jim was lucky too. Even though the beam fell from just below him, it did what large beams on tall towers always do. It scraped and bounced off the guy wires on the way down. Towers sometimes fail under such circumstances. Jim got quite a ride at the top. Heavy objects banging off guy wires will make the top of a tower jerk and sway, sometimes violently. Jim was saved by his safety belt and the fact that the tower guying system had a lot of margin.

Anyone who has ever had the task of installing a large beam on a tall tower knows one of the fundamental problems is getting the beam around guy wires on the way up. There are various methods for doing it, including using a tram system, assembling the beam at the top of the tower or

Around the Shack, continued

simply snaking the beam through the guy wires with carabineers, ropes and an alert ground crew. Cranes and helicopters occasionally come into play as well. All of those methods imply, hopefully, that the beam and ancillary tools and hardware are always under control as the beam moves up the tower. That's not always the case of course, and antennas do break loose on the way up. Assembling antennas at the top of the tower, or at least above the highest set of guy wires, is a recipe for everything from nuts and bolts to boom sections falling.

In my experience falling antennas and antenna parts often occur on their way up a tower, precipitated by mechanical problems occurring anywhere from just above the antenna to the top of the tower. Pulleys break, shackles break, gin poles fail, carabineers slide and ropes break. Sometimes this is at installation, other times it's when tower work requires the temporary loosening of bolts and other mechanical changes while adding or changing antennas and feed lines.

Such a failure is available to watch on YouTube. Search for "Seven die in TV tower collapse." Warning: It can be hard to watch. The incident occurred on the 1750 foot KTXH tower in Missouri City, Texas. The precipitating failure was a U-bolt securing a pulley breaking well above the antenna. What can clearly be seen at the 2:45 mark, and again at 3:38 is the antenna system riding down a guy wire. Out-of-control antennas riding down guy wires send up what looks like white smoke. It's the galvanizing and oxidation on the guy wires being scraped off. The white smoke is accompanied by grinding and scraping noises. I witnessed the white smoke and the sound when WB4VVF's TH6DXX fell. Once seen and/or heard it's not forgotten. The beginning of the YouTube video shows the ground crew lollygagging (a non-technical term) around at the base of the tower in violation of established safety procedures and common sense.

Once a heavy load is bouncing and riding guy wires during an uncontrolled fall, there is a high risk of tower failure. The falling antenna system at KTXH weighed tons. The antenna system broke two four-inch diameter guy wires on the way down and the tower fell. Three of the deceased were on the antenna, but the four others who perished were the ground crew near the base of the tower. They did not need to be there. The short answer to how this could have been prevented was to add a 90 degree pulley at the base of the tower. I will cover the approach below. Such a pulley could have saved lives.

Wheeeee! I'm on a Boson's chair! I've seen ham radio tower "climbers" use Boson's chairs and to me they are enigmatic and unsafe. For those unfamiliar with a Boson's chair, it's often no more than a plank of wood, a bridle and a rope to a pulley at the top of the tower. Someone or something (I've seen lawn tractors used) pulls you up. It takes 15 to 20 minutes to climb a 100 foot tower safely. You can reach the top of a 100 foot tower in 30 seconds riding a Boson's chair.

Here is the enigma. Getting to the top in 30 seconds requires being attached at only one place. The climber is attached to the tower at the top via the pulley and the shackle securing it and nowhere else. This violates the cardinal rule of always being attached twice.

Meanwhile, you can go up a tower in a Boson's chair and move a safety line attachment up as you go along, but this negates the time savings. There is no way to do it quickly and safely - which taken in the abstract should come as no surprise. Fast and safe is an oxymoron.



Around the Shack, continued

the top of a tower.

That's enough examples I think. Tower work is dangerous even when everything seems "just right." You can read about tower accidents all day on the internet. There is a common thread to the stories above. They were all caused by a failure at or near the top of the tower, presenting great peril to the ground crew.

Nothing associated with tower work is 100% safe.

Beyond recounting tragedies is there a point to this month's column? Yes, it's highlighting a simple practice involving a simple item that provides great protection to a ground crew. It's called a pulley.

Ground crew protection from falling items is surprisingly easy to mitigate. For this article most of Figure 1 [at right] can be ignored; I'd like to draw your attention to the item labeled "snatch block pulley" at the base of the tower. The figure is from the ARRL Handbook.

The hauling line makes a 90 degree turn at the base of the tower, allowing the ground crew to be as safely far removed from the tower base as necessary.

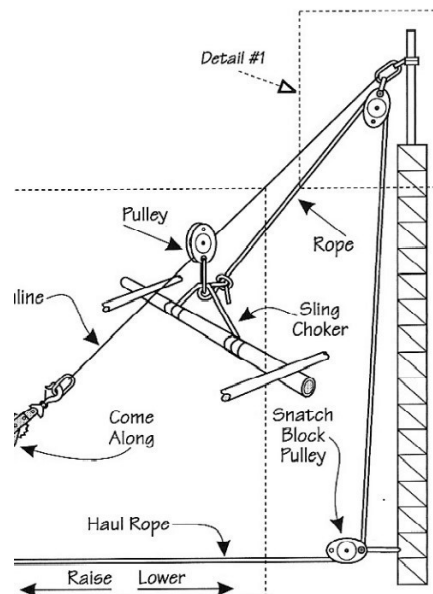


Figure 2



Figure 3

I first encountered this approach at K4JA, where there were five 205 foot towers and 14 Yagis each on 48 foot booms. Ninety degree pulleys were always used at the tower bases for ground crew protection.

90 degree pulleys at the base of towers also have a highly important secondary benefit. They allow the ground crew to clearly see what's happening at the top of the tower. You don't get this view looking straight up from the base of a tower.

Figure 2 [at left] shows how it's done. The photo is courtesy of Jim Idelson, K1IR. Notice how simple this is!

Are you doing it? Every time? Why not?

Figure 3 [lower left] shows a product available for sale on eBay. I much prefer K1IR's approach. No pulley, for any purpose, should be used for tower work unless it comes with a rating.

I wrote a few years ago about examining every single component in one's shack to aid in maximizing reliability. Nothing is more important than reliability in tower work. Take a good look at Figure 3 – this is a good object lesson in assessing "everything." What are we relying on?

There are two bolts. Do they have tensile strength markings on the heads? I can't tell from the picture.

There are four welds and two don't run the length of the seam they join. How good are those welds?

What is the rating of the pulley and axle? I can't tell but it doesn't look robust and the advertising copy doesn't say.

Around the Shack, continued

This pulley assembly might be sufficient to haul up a six meter beam, or maybe not. Just by looking, I can tell it won't support a 4 element 40 meter Yagi on a 48 foot boom. Meanwhile, you can't rely on how it looks. I wouldn't buy it, given the superiority of K1IR's straightforward approach.

Safety to a large degree is about mitigation. Planning and acting in advance of what could go wrong. There are books written on the subject and research should be undertaken before a tower project is begun. Old-hand tower experts pack the 90-degree crew protection pulley right along with their safety belt. They don't leave home without one.

73,

Hal N4GG

* If you are an old-timer, the callsign WB4VVF might seem vaguely familiar. That callsign still belongs to Jim Garrett, the inventor of the WB4VVF Accu-Keyer. The Accu-Keyer was followed two years later by the Accu-Memory. Both were designed in the early 1970s. The articles for both are in the QST archives. Jim and I shared a cubicle at Martin Marietta at that time and I built Accu-Keyer S/N 001 to Jim's design. I still have it. Jim went on to sell over 10,000 Accu-Keyer PC boards. He used the profits to buy a new Corvette, which became known around Orlando as the Accu-Vette. Good times.

- Figure 1.** Use of a snatch block to provide the ground crew safe separation from the base of a tower and visibility of the top. Source: ARRL Handbook, 95th Edition (2018).
- Figure 2.** Use of a shackle and pulley to perform a 90 degree bend at the tower base. Courtesy of K1IR. This is a best practice.
- Figure 3.** An eBay-sourced 90-degree pulley sold without specifications of any kind. To be avoided!

SKYWARN For Beginners

There has been a lot of interesting weather lately including an F3 tornado that struck the Gloucester County ARC during Tropical Storm Ida and destroyed their antennas. (See details and a chance to help at w2mmd.org). Here is an easy way to understand "watches and warnings" —



For more on local SKYWARN, go to <https://www.bergenskywarn.org/>

Ed - itorial : A Question of Scale**– by Ed WX2R**

If you looked carefully at last month's issue of *The Resonator*, you noticed an interesting line graph about the club.

FLARC passed a milestone over the Summer with membership increasing to (at present) 173 members. The prior peak was going into the Pandemic Year of 2019 when we had 167 paid members. And the operative word for membership total is "paid." The list is up to date, and no one is being carried to make the roster look larger.

That is quite an achievement in which we all can be proud. The club is now one of the largest both in New Jersey and the Hudson Division. It has something going on nearly every day of the week and special interest groups that keep the club vibrant, active, and together. In marketing terms, FLARC can be subtly called a "branded house"—varied interests (or "products") under one umbrella. A mini FedEx.

Growth has come with permission from the membership. Every year the club is asked as part of the annual member survey if the club should grow both in size and reputation, in reputation alone or remain the same as it is "now." Overwhelmingly the club membership votes for continued growth and reputation, much to my surprise.

Surely "bigness" has clear advantages. It's called "scale." The ability to do more things with more member interest. The POTA SIG is a great example of this. Another is the June hamfest, which has given the club financial "security" and provided many volunteers to help with whatever needs to be done.

Growth also has different connotations. One area we inquired about in the last member survey was finding ways to expand the geographic footprint of FLARC beyond Fair Lawn and the clubhouse. More than half of 2021 survey respondents (53%) indicated that they wanted FLARC to *"Become a broader based club regardless of geography -- the pandemic has shown that the club can operate without restrictions by using the internet, Echolink and amateur communications."*

Ed - itorial, continued.

COVID-19 has put a short-term damper on such planning but if there is any sense of "normalcy" in 2022, it will be one subject area we will look at. The definition of what a "club" represents today is changing because of lifestyles, demographics and pandemics.

But not all growth is good, however. Arguably there are limits to growth and one never knows where the boundaries are until they are reached. Access to the clubhouse is an example. Participation in events needs constant attention and consent from the Council. The level of personal involvement and "insider politics" is certainly another. The SIGs take off some of that pressure and the relaxation of COVID-19 constraints also help to get more involved and better create "clubs within a club."

Growth and scale also create pressure among "tenured" members. The club at 173 is far different from what the club was at 70 members. The pressure of continuity from what is old and familiar vs. the need to involve fresh faces, new ideas, and the evolution of 21st century amateur radio will be constant and, I believe, positive.

When I rejoined the club in 2015 after more than a decade away, I encountered a club that was smaller than the one I had left. We created a marketing (Publicity) committee that used the 60th anniversary in 2016 as a catalyst to spur the growth you see today. When I look at all the components that FLARC has become, I must pinch myself. We have an active membership, some notoriety, financial stability, active contributors and a forward-facing group of amateurs.

So, I guess we have achieved "scale." But size is relative. And there is still much to do. FLARC, like all clubs, is a membership business. The membership must be kept satisfied to enable continued growth and membership renewals. And all growth is relative. Even at 173 members, we are about half the size of LIMARC. (!)

Perhaps something to aspire to.

But only you can decide.

DE Ed WX2R

Digital Voice SIG Update



DigiVoice@FairLawnARC.groups.io

A Special Interest Group SIG for those interested in Digital Voice modes (Digital Mobile Radio) communications and software.

We will be using DMR TalkGroup 310015 on Brandmeister Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm.

Starting at 7:30 Tuesdays we will transfer over to the new FLARC TGIF Network Talkgroup 14547. Those interested please sign up for the TGIF network and setup your hotspot prior to the test. Information on how to sign up for the TGIF network and setup your hotspot was published in "*The Resonator*" in [July 2021, page 59](#).

The FLARC DMR nets will always be finished before the NorthStar Digital Net, which is at 8:00pm Tuesdays on DMR STEM TalkGroup 31630 on Brandmeister.

For those interested in joining all the Digital Voice excitement! Contact Bob H.

KD2BKD@optonline.net for information on the Digital Voice SIG. Or just go to the club website FairLawnARC.org and use the "Join Special Interest Group(s)" link on left.



Radio Monitoring Special Interest Group Update

monitoring@FairLawnARC.groups.io

A Special Interest Group SIG for those interested in SWL and other radio communications monitoring.

Doing It By The Numbers

In addition to the typical things you can hear during your monitoring of the HF bands, there has been a long standing mystery that has existed since the cold war and possibly even before. I am referring to the numbers stations.

A numbers station can pop up on almost any frequency on the shortwave bands. A typical broadcast consists of a male or female voice reading long strings of numbers, usually in five number groups. They can be in any language but most of them that monitors have heard seem to be in Spanish, German, English, and a smattering of other languages. These mystery stations give no call letters and no other form of identification.

Since the cold war has ended, number station activity has dropped off – but they can still be heard from time to time.

It is speculated that these stations broadcast coded one-way messages to secret agents and they take the form of one time pads.

A one-time pad is a cypher that is given to an agent. It is "encrypted" using a specific set of instructions given specifically to that agent. In this way that agent has the only key to deciphering the message.

Nobody is sure where these broadcasts originate, but a tantalizing clue has surfaced a while back.

One day monitors heard a typical numbers station broadcast who's audio was mixing with Radio Havana Cuba. This started speculation that Cuba was at least responsible for some of the numbers traffic.

One can assume that the numbers station transmitter was collocated with the transmitters of Radio Havana and that a technician, in error, fed two audio sources to a single transmitter by mistake.

Continued on page 41.

The Joys of POTA *

By Fred Belghaus – W2AAB

*The call sign used in this story does not exist.

POTA (Parks on the Air) has become a popular operating interest group in amateur radio. There are two objectives in POTA: to activate (operate from) State and National Parks, and by being a “hunter,” contacting as many parks as possible. Awards are given for both types of activity. In this sense, POTA is much like chasing DX entities, Islands of the world, USA Counties, States, and so on. Having recently discovered POTA, I find it to be a most enjoyable activity.

Well, somewhere in the wilds of New Jersey, A. Johnny Newham, KX2XX, has become interested in POTA. This is the story of Johnny’s first activation.

After lunch one Saturday afternoon, Johnny loaded up his shiny new SUV and headed out to one of our State Parks. He could hardly conceal his excitement at the thought of putting park K-9999 on the air, the recently approved “Stinking Swamp Wildlife Refuge and Skunk Cabbage Preserve” in the Township of Watson’s Mistake, New Jersey. Only one other ham had ever activated this new POTA, and it appeared that no one else wanted to, except for Johnny.

Johnny arrived just after 3:00, and after driving through an unpaved dirt road with enormous potholes, he parked in a nice, cool, grassy area. Then he trudged through the soft mud, sinking in half way up his hiking boots. Being careful to avoid pools of stinky black water here and there, he then had to shoo away countless large flies and mosquitoes. He set up his transceiver and 35 AH battery on a large, flat rock, and ran about 15 feet of coax to another large rock covered with moss and hundreds of bird droppings, upon which he installed his tripod mount and antenna.

Before operating, he tried to spot himself on the POTA Spots page, but he was so far out in the boonies that he couldn’t get a signal on his smartphone. So he turned on the rig and started tuning 40 meters. The band was quiet out here in the hinterlands. There were several strong stations heard, so things were looking up. He picked up the mike, and began to transmit.

“CQ Parks on the Air, CQ Parks on the Air... this is Kilo X-ray Two X-ray X-ray... Kilo X-Ray Two X-Ray X-Ray... Park Kilo-9999 calling CQ POTA and standing by.”

A loud signal, 20 over 9 came back. “Uh old man, you are QRMing the Early Session of the Chicken Plucker’s Net one K.C. up. We’ve been on there for twenty nine years this December, so please QSY!”

“Sorry, old man,” Johnny said, “Gosh, I’m only running 10 watts here to a Buddipole, but I’ll be happy to move.”

There was no response from the unidentified 20 over 9 signal, but Johnny heard a deep, guttural sound from behind his SUV. He thought it was a bear, but it wasn’t. It was big, though, hairy all over, and it smelled funny. It might have been a giant ape, but there are no apes in New Jersey — at least none that Johnny knew of. The creature grasped the rear end of his car with its big hands, and rocked Johnny’s car back and forth. As the creature did this, it growled. Johnny froze in fright, but after a half minute or so, his car stopped rocking and the creature lumbered away, dragging its knuckles in the swampy soil. Johnny breathed a sigh of relief as he watched the big animal disappear deep into the woods.

Wiping the sweat from his brow, Johnny decided to try another CQ, farther up the band. This time, he remembered to first ask if there was anyone else using the frequency.

The Joys of POTA, continued.

"Is the frequency in use? Is the frequency in use? This is Kilo X-Ray two X-Ray X-Ray... over."

Hearing nothing, Johnny called again. "CQ Parks on the Air... CQ Parks on the Air... This is Kilo X-Ray two X-Ray X-Ray... Kilo X-Ray two X-Ray X-Ray, operating from Park K-9999, standing by."

Another big signal replied. "Hey, you @\$%<%^& lid! Can't you hear the Good Ol' Boys Outhouse Net five K.C.s down? Take yer damn contest somewhere else!"

Smacking the back of his head where a big Jersey mosquito had settled down for a meal, Johnny answered, "Oh, sorry old man. Okay, I'll move."

Farther up the band, Johnny made another call. "Is the frequency in use? Is the frequency in use? This is Kilo X-Ray two X-Ray X-Ray..."

Big signal number 3 replied. "Old man, the Bunion and Halitosis Sufferer's Net is just about to start up on this frequency. Please QSY."

Johnny's exasperated response was: "Why sure, old man. Sorry for the QRM. 73. Kilo X-ray two X-Ray X-Ray will QSY."

Even farther up the band, Johnny started again. "Is this frequency in use? Is this frequency in use? Kilo X-Ray two X-Ray X-Ray..."

Now, a huge AM carrier came on frequency, followed by: "YAY-lo... YAY-lo... One two three four..... YAAAAY-a-lo..." Then the big AM carrier disappeared, once again without any I.D., so our hero moved even farther up the band and tried again. You've just got to admire Johnny's spirit!

It was now after 4:00, and the band was changing, only Johnny didn't know it.

"Is THIS frequency in use? I repeat... is THIS frequency in use? Kilo X-ray two X-Ray X-Ray..."

Just then, another AM carrier came on, nearly zero beat with Johnny's frequency. It was 40 over 9. "Oh, NO," Johnny cried, "Isn't there ANY frequency that's not in use?"

After a short silence, Johnny heard a few bars of someone's National Anthem, followed by a foreign language which Johnny didn't understand. It was one of those foreign broadcast stations all over 40 meters with another monster signal.

At that moment, Johnny spotted what looked like a large steel pipe in the Skunk Cabbage patch. It moved slowly forward, bending itself as it moved. It wasn't a steel pipe, at all. It was a snake. The biggest, meanest looking snake Johnny had ever seen.

"Yikes!" Johnny said, out loud. His face turned pale, and the snake slithered away, and disappeared beneath the surface of a black pool of stinky water.

Meanwhile, an official looking vehicle with flashing lights pulled up close by, and a guy got out, wearing a uniform and a Smokey Bear hat. From the look on his face, he'd been having a bad day.

"This is a restricted area," the man barked. "Only official vehicles are allowed in here, so you better move."

"Uh, yes sir. Sorry, I didn't know."

"Don't let it happen again."

"No, sir," Johnny said.

The Joys of POTA, continued.

At this point, it started to rain, so our hero quickly packed up his rig and battery, took down his antenna, coiled the coax, dodged stinky black pools, mosquitoes and flies the size of small birds, sloshed through more soft mud, and headed home. After a two hour drive, and lugging his paraphernalia, his wife met him at the front door.

“How was your first POTA activation, dear?”

“Oh, it was great. Boy, do I love ham radio. Next week, I’ll try the Dead Seagull National Park on Fishhook Island.”

Moral:

When activating parks in New Jersey, prepare to meet all sorts of exotic wildlife. But look for the posted warning signs, first.



Bugs



Skeeters



Snakes



and Bigfoot



Member Profile, continued

best of my ability give back to those that may need my help and the knowledge I may have received throughout the years.

How would you like to become more involved with FLARC?

Well, for FLARC I will always say “bring it on.” The membership has trusted me enough to have made me President for the past two years. That vote of confidence cannot be taken for granted and is a call for me to be involved and serve the members. We have tried throughout the term to have a club that is fun, that you can learn, benefit from every good thing we have: our facilities, our members, our culture, etc.

My involvement with FLARC will not end in a few weeks. I truly hope that when my term is over, future administrations understand that I will always be available to work for the benefit of the club and its members. This hobby is a passion I’ve had all my life and I want to share that passion with the club and future members that may knock at our door.

What else can you tell the club about yourself and / or ham radio?

I currently live in Englewood, NJ... I enjoy doing POTA “Parks on the Air” (thanks to FLARC and W2MSA). My Mom is also a Ham, **NP4YL** and when not working or doing Ham Radio, I am very much involved in the Masonic Fraternity - which keeps me busy and has also grown my extended family as it has happened with my extended family at FLARC.



Norm Hartz ex-K2IJD SK

With a heavy heart – FLARC member passes.

Norman Hartz ex-**K2IJD** passed away on Wednesday evening September 29th.

As many of you know, Norm and I graduated from Fair Lawn High School together in 1960. We reconnected after one of the class reunions in 2000. Norm was a banker for many years and had no family. FLARC members and I were his family and we helped move him from his apartment in Fair Lawn to his new home at Allendale Home for Senior Citizens in Allendale, NJ just at the beginning of the Covid shutdowns. Adjusting to life in a “facility,” as nice as it was, was difficult since he was confined to his room all day - every day until a few months ago.

I visited with him often to provide company and to deliver needed supplies and goodies. Nomar NP4H and Dave KD2JIP among others visited as well. Recently I was able to take him out doing errands, enjoying a slice at Rays in Fair Lawn and later to attend two FLARC monthly meetings in person.

I was with him last Tuesday (September 28th) for a town-hall meeting at the facility and he was in good spirits and introduced me to many of his “new” friends there. We took his evening meal tray up to his room and I departed for home. We talked about getting FLARC members together to read FCC licensing questions to him and to be present to read questions when he was ready to take to test to “renew” his old call K2IJD. But it was not to be,

Sadly, on Wednesday evening, September 29th, he finished his evening meal with friends in the dining room and went to his room at about 7:30PM. Apparently, there he had a massive heart attack, fell and hit his head. When nurses delivered his evening medications at 8:30 they found him. Paramedics tried to revive him.

Since he has NO family except FLARC and another mutual friend Greg Ryan, he was cremated and there will be no services. God-speed Norm. RIP old friend.

— Van W2DLT

Satellite Special Interest Group Update

Satellite-SIG@FairLawnARC.groups.io

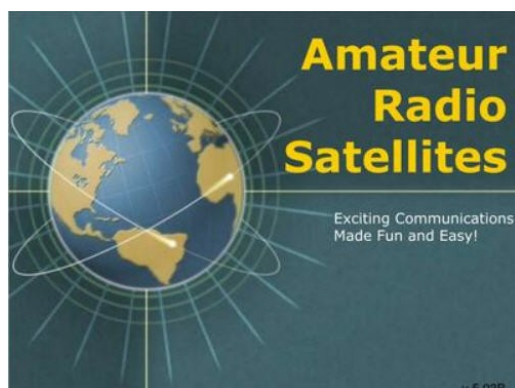
A Special Interest Group SIG for those interested in amateur radio satellites, as well as others like weather, GPS, etc..

We welcome all interested in all types of satellite communications. Some interests are AMSAT, ARISS, receiving weather maps from satellites, APRS via ISS, and much more.

Last month was a great Kawfee Tawk by Clint Bradford K6LCS on Working Amateur Satellites with an HT. For more information check out his "Work Sat" website at <https://www.work-sat.com/> or <https://www.k6lcs.com/Home.html>

Who is that to the right in the blue shirt and gray hat looking over Clint's satellite setup? It is WB6ACU, Joe Walsh from the Eagles.

For those interested in joining all the Space Radio excitement! Contact Bob H. KD2BKD@optonline.net for information on the Satellite-SIG. Or just go to the club website www.FairLawnARC.org and use the "Join Special Interest Group(s)" link on left.



Radio Monitoring Special Interest Group Update, cont'd

For the most part however the sources of the numbers stations still remains one of the mysteries of the HF bands.

It is now autumn and with the cooling weather and turning of the leaves the HF bands become less noisy, with the departure of summer static.

Scientists speculate that our new sunspot cycle number 25 may be an especially good one for that long haul exotic DX. Let's hope they are correct.

Keep those reports coming to the Monitoring group on the FLARC Groups.io page and if you have any questions, comments or suggestions on what I should cover in upcoming articles, feel free to E-Mail me at dmarthouse@gmail.com

73 and good DX.

de Dave, N2AAM

Ria Jairam N2RJ Discusses Amateur Radio on Trinidad and Tobago

Amateur radio is quite different in Trinidad and Tobago when compared to the United States, explained Ria Jairam N2RJ in a September 24th Kawfee Tawk attended by nearly forty FLARC members and guests.

With about 250 hams on the islands, there is a strong need for emergency communications and ham radio provides a good deal of the backbone. Hams tend to be highly technical and more resourceful. The island nation is much poorer than the US, making parts expensive and new equipment sometimes beyond the reach of newer hams. The licensing structure follows that of the UK with three tiers of license classes.

Ria also provided a great backgrounder on living in the island nation - describing the many customs and ways of living far different than the things we take for granted here. Roads, for example, are often dirt and difficult to navigate. A multi-cultural nation, it is now facing increased pressures due to the unsettled situation in neighboring Venezuela.

All in all, a wonderful combination of ham radio, travelogue, and an update on ARRL business as well. Thanks Ria!!

EmComm Special Interest Group [Emergency Communications]

There seems to be quite a bit of interest in Emergency Communications (EmComm) in FLARC these days, so this group will provide a place to archive info regarding WinLink, FLDigi and other tools used for EmComm -- as well as a place to exchange ideas, etc.

From: NNJ SEC <nnjsec@gmail.com>
Subject: NNJ ARES Reorganization
Date sent: Fri, 1 Oct 2021 08:53 EDT

Special Announcement to all NNJ ARES members

After consultation and with the approval of the Section Manager, Bob W2OU, I have completed a reorganization of the leadership of our ARES Section.

The Section is now divided into three districts, Western, Eastern and Southern. The Western district includes the counties of Hunterdon, Warren, Sussex and Morris. **The Eastern district includes the counties of Essex, Passaic, Bergen and Hudson.** The Southern district includes Monmouth, Middlesex, Somerset and Union counties.

Each of these districts will be headed up by a District Emergency Coordinator. All previous DEC's are appointed to the position of Emergency Coordinator (EC). These new DEC's will reach out to respective county EC's.

The respective EC's will report to the District DEC their net activity, incident and exercise reports with copies to the SEC.

That being said, I'd like to congratulate Doc K2PHD, DEC for the Western District; **Aly ALØY, DEC for the Eastern District** and John N2DV DEC for the Southern District.

Kevin, K2FN continues as the Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator.

I hope you all join me in wishing our new DEC's success. If you have any questions regarding this new structure, feel free to email me at NNJSEC@gmail.com

Or John N2DV@arrl.net, Doc K2PHD@arrl.net and Aly ALØY, aly@ALØY.com

This directive is effective immediately,
October 1, 2021

73

John, W2VTV

SEC NNJ ARES

Contest Corner

– Van W2DLT



NEWS – NEWS:

We now have a SLACK channel just for Contesting.

Please join to get the latest info on upcoming and operating contests....

This month we'll review the NJ QSO Party which occurred on Saturday, September 18th.

The club station was abuzz with activity on both SSB and CW. I opened the station at 11AM to get things ready for a noontime start. Jim W2JC and Nomar had been at the station on that Friday and got things 99% ready – including the semi-permanent installation of the required band-pass filters in the patch-room/office. We had 19 people sign in for the event. Several were just-licensed and some guests. Many newer members were encouraged to “get-on-the-air” and several did.

Fred W2AAB and Steve KA2YRA aggregated their personal scores to make a total of 68,000 points for the club – I expect it will be a winner for the area and possibly the state. We'll see when they announce the winners. Thanks for all the participation, it was great to see everyone “in person” again.

Now let's review a few Contesting basics:

You all probably know about and use QRZ.com to look up station information. For contesting you'll need a logging software program. Two notable ones are <https://n1mmwp.hamdocs.com/> which is FREE and used at the club station exclusively. There is also N3FJP at <http://www.n3fjp.com/> That program costs \$49.99 but some say it is simpler to use than N1MM.

You might also want to check on what contests are coming on what dates, at:

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>

Another valuable resource is the Space Weather

Continued on page 46.

What Is It? – Answer To Last Month's Question

By: Fred Belghaus W2AAB



Image: etsy.com

Is it a screw? Is it a bolt? I even received an email from someone who thought that it might be a type of RF connector. That's a good guess, but no, it's none of these. If you look carefully at the top part in the picture, you'll see an opening. What, you say, a hollow bolt? No again. It's a threaded panel bushing. What's that?

Suppose you've built a piece of equipment that has a potentiometer, variable capacitor or multi-position switch that must be set back from the front panel. You'd have to extend the actuator shaft on that part with a coupling and another shaft to reach just beyond the front panel. In order to hold that extender shaft in place, you would pass it through a threaded panel bushing, like the one above.

The one in the picture was made by Jackson Brothers. It's for a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch shaft, and it was machined from chrome plated brass. The thread is $\frac{3}{8}$ -32, and it has a hex head, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch across flats. The hex head will extend slightly out from the front panel, secured on the rear of the panel with an appropriate washer and nut. Although it looks larger, the overall length is only $\frac{5}{8}$ inch.

73,

Fred, W2AAB

What Is It? – September, 2021

By: Fred Belghaus W2AAB



I can hear you moaning..."Oh, no, it's another TOOB question!"
But is it?

Sometimes, things look like one thing when they're really
something else quite different.

So what is it, really, and how is it used?
Answer next month.

73,

Fred, W2AAB

FLARC Provides Support For ~~Independence Day/Labor Day~~/September 19th Fireworks



Pix via Ed WX2R

L to R: Nelson - KD2BVZ, Fred - W2ABE, Judith - KC2LTM, Robert - KD2SOG, Gene - WO2W, Madison - KC2RSS, Gregg - N2ECH, Jim - W2JC, [Ed - WX2R behind the camera]

As you know, this past Sunday night was the annual Fair Lawn Fireworks. I would like to thank the following members for helping, in no special order —

**Jim W2JC, Judith KC2LTM, Fred W2ABE, Madison KC2RSS,
Nelson KD2BVZ, Greg N2ECH and Ed WX2R.**

For an event such as this, we really would have liked to have had more volunteers. The club sent out many notices about it. Maybe it was the change in date but we did have far fewer volunteers than in previous years. We were a bit stretched in communications for the first time in many years.

We have a GREAT and long working understanding with the borough and Jimmy Graff, superintendent of the Recreation Department. It is important that we maintain that relationship and not take it for granted. A positive working relationship gets us access to a clubhouse, as well as locations for Field Day, hamfests, other events. This is a benefit that few clubs can claim. Let's keep it this way.

So please, the next time we ask our membership to support the town, PLEASE do so.

Gene

WO2W

Help Wanted: Kawfee Tawk™ Speaker Bureau Assistant

The FLARC Publicity Committee is currently seeking an assistant to join Kawfee Tawk Speakers Bureau team. The monthly speaker series features unique and exciting speakers to keep club members informed about current and interesting issues in amateur radio. Responsibilities include:

- Manage and execute speaking engagement logistics;
- Maintain and update CRM database including contact management and event details;
- Respond to general speaker inquiries by email and by phone;
- Aid the KT Speakers Bureau marketing team with the creation of content for the FLARC website and social media channels, including drafting and updating speaker profiles and monitoring speaker news alerts.

No prior experience is necessary. And it's fun! See Ed WX2R for more details or email at wx2r@arrl.net.

— • • • —

The Great FLARC Auction is Friday, November 26th!! Save The Date!!

What: The Great FLARC Auction

When: Friday, November 26, 2021
(Day After Thanksgiving)

Where: Fair Lawn Senior Center,
11-05 Gardiner Road, Fair Lawn

Why: Raise money, sell “junque,” have fun!

Who: You!

How Much: \$5.00 for both buyers and sellers; 15% commission to the club on all sales

How: Volunteer. Lots of openings for runners, setup, kitchen, general logistics.

See: Bill WA2WL or Gene WO2W

FLARC is following government Covid-19 guidance closely and all events will adhere accordingly to the latest advice.

Contest Corner, continued.

Lady – propagation reports weekly at:

<https://www.spaceweatherwoman.com>

What's up this month in Contesting:

One of the BIG FOUR annual contests takes place this month. It is the CQWW-SSB Contest [the CQ World-Wide Sideband contest] on Saturday, October 30th starting at 8PM (0000Z) and ends at 7:59PM (2359Z) Sunday. The CQ WW is the largest Amateur Radio competition in the world. Over 35,000 participants take to the airwaves on the last weekend of October (SSB) with the goal of making as many contacts with as many different DXCC entities and CQ Zones as possible.

What a great opportunity to reach new countries (entities) to add to your DXCC countries list. Give it a try – even “little pistols” will succeed in working a number of new countries. Give it a try.

See you next month for another installment of “The Contest Corner” by Van W2DLT





FLARC PortableOps SIG

PortableOps@FairLawnARC.groups.io

This is a Special Interest Group (SIG) for members interested in portable ham radio operation such as POTA, SOTA, IOTA, LOTA, etc.

The purpose of this SIG is to get outdoors and practice our operating skills from different places. We can share outing experiences, tips and work on our operating skills.

POTAventures -- by Brian Duddy N2BTD

On Saturday September 4th I was invited by fellow club member KB2FMH James to visit him at the Ten Mile River Boy Scout Camp in Narrowsburg, NY. I decided to leave the house early that day and stop at a few POTA locations along the way up to Narrowsburg. The first stop was at Goose Pond Mountain State Park POTA K-2064 in Chester, NY. I decided the easiest place to transmit from was a small parking lot for the Wetland Trail on Route 17M, right off Route 6. I arrived at the parking lot just prior to 0700 EDT and was able to log a total of 35 contacts in an hour of operation on 40 meters.

The next stop was a 30 minute drive up Route 17 to the Bashakill Wildlife Management Area POTA K-9136 in Wurtsboro, NY. The W.M.A. is located just off Route 17 along Treasure Lake Road (a.k.a. Route 209).



Report from Portable Ops SIG, cont'd

I had planned to operate from a small parking area on Haven Road but while traveling along Treasure Lake Road I noticed a newly constructed dirt road and sign for the W.M.A. so I decided to see if that was a good area to operate from. The dirt road takes you about a half mile into the woods to a parking lot 15 feet from the shore of the Bashakill. The view that this parking area provided was breathtaking.



Before operating I had to get out of the car and take several photographs of the morning fog floating over the wetlands. I started operating at approximately 0830 EDT and was able to log 56 contacts on 20 & 40 meters in my hour and 15 minutes on the air.

The third & final stop before visiting James was a 40 minute drive up Route 17 to Lake Superior State Park POTA K-2093 in Bethel, NY. Lake Superior is located on Dr. Duggan Road off Route 17B. There are 2 areas to operate from at Lake Superior. The first parking area is where boaters launch their boats. That area was quite congested so I decided to head a bit further south down the road to the small secondary lot where a handful of people were picnicking.

I started operating at approximately 1030 EDT and was able to log 34 contacts on 20 & 40 meters in my hour and 15 minutes on the air.

After finishing my activation at Lake Superior State Park it was a short 15 minute drive to the Boy Scout Camp. Not only does the camp museum

Continued on page 51.

Fair Lawn RACES/ARES Corner, cont.

are looking for a Net Control Operator and Scribe for the next time we host the BC RACES Net.

Thank you to those who have taken part as the Net Control Station in the past. FL-RACES is hosting the BC-RACES Net on Wednesday, October 27th at 7:45 PM. We are looking for a Net Control Operator and a Scribe for the BC-RACES Net.

Our monthly briefings will take place soon at the FLARC in person!! Stay tuned. The volunteer efforts of our members are very much appreciated. If you are interested in joining the Fair Lawn RACES, please contact me.

Anyone who's a licensed amateur radio operator may join Fair Lawn RACES and there's no residential requirement.

For information regarding Bergen County RACES, please go to <http://www.bcnjraces.org>.

Please be safe and be well. Thank you very much.

73.

David KD2MOB,

Emergency Coordinator FL-ARES and
President FL-RACES



From The President, continued.

Friday, November 26th is another date to put on your calendar. Our Annual FLARC Auction is back, and I promise it will be better than ever. We'll be ready to offer you a wonderful experience as a seller and buyer. More details will be forthcoming, but if you wish to sell and pre-register for the event, please contact Bill Leger, WA2WL at wa2wl@protonmail.com.

The year may be almost ending, but FLARC keeps on going with events, **Kawfee Tawks™** and more. Stay tuned to our Social Media platforms, emails and announcements on the W2NPT Repeater.

Remember, this is YOUR club and we want you to get the most of it ALWAYS.

And coming up very soon will be our FLARC **Annual Members' Survey**. Make sure to participate and let us know how you feel. Your responses will help us bring you a better FLARC with ALL the things YOU want.

Take care, stay safe and healthy and I'll "see ya" on the radio"...

73,

Nomar, NP4H

FLARC President



Not FLARC members!



Example of a portable ham radio station

Theoretics Demystified

I was recently at Kutztown PA for the antique radio swap meet and I saw a very early ham radio microphone which was actually a part of a candlestick phone without the receiver. This leads me to the early day of telephone which was developed hand in hand with ham radio.

The very early telephones were very simple but used a carbon microphone which was a type of voice variable resistor. As you spoke there were carbon granules that were packed behind a diaphragm and as it vibrated, it compressed the granules in time with your voice which in turn changed the resistance of the microphone.

In fact you can take one of these older carbon microphone elements and connect it in series with a battery and a speaker and as you talk into the mike element, you will hear your voice in the speaker! This leads to the next part of the basic telephone instrument.

There was what was called an induction coil which had several windings and they were wound so that the carbon element part of the circuit had a lower resistance as the carbon element required more current and then there was the part that fed to the earpiece and it was wound so as to provide the user with a bit of the voice that came from the mike circuit at a reduced volume, and finally there was part of the coil that fed out to the talk circuit to the distant phone at the other end.

So there were three parts and circuits to this coil. There was also a 'condenser' hooked in series with the earpiece so as to keep the constant DC out of the earpiece. There was also the required hookswitch, local batteries on the early phones and a magneto to 'ring the operator.' When you were on hook, the magneto was connected and as you turned the crank to operate it, the closed hookswitch contacts would send the low frequency AC signal of about twenty or thirty Hertz to the distant operator lighting her call lamp and then she would pick up and say 'number please' or in the earliest days she would converse with you and you would tell her you would like to talk to farmer Grey!

Theoretics Demystified, continued

When you picked up the receiver, the magneto was disconnected and the talk local battery was used to provide the current to enable voice communication.

As things evolved the need for the local battery was eliminated along with the need for the magneto as there were now talk batteries located at the 'central office.' This meant that the phone could be simpler needing only the speech associated parts plus a bell that would ring when you were called.

The bell coil at the local phone also had a small capacitor to block DC in case it got into the bell circuit. The aforementioned improvements led to the 'candlestick phone.' It is like the one used by Elliot Ness in the Untouchables [look that up].

Early switchboards in the country were usually located in someone's house that was central to the phones in the area. The early phones were almost always the wooden wall phones like on shows like 'Lassie' look THAT up too! Getting back to candlestick phones, some of the early ones still used a magneto and batteries but they were in separate ringer and battery boxes.

As things went on there were central offices with switchboards with incoming lines by the thousands and dozens of ladies operating them. Why few men? Because the phone company found that the subscribers preferred the female voice at the end of the line.

Then came about the system of dialing, using a dial that sent pulses to relays that counted the pulses and connected you to the number. Simply put, when you picked up, your line relay found you and as you dialed, each successive set of pulses were counted by successive relays till the last one connected you to the desired number. This is a very simplified explanation!!

Later came the "touch tone" phones with the associated decoding equipment which by that time was solid state and consisted of cards

Continued on page 50.

Clint Bradford K6LCS Shows Us How To Work Satellites at September 17th FLARC Kawfee Tawk™

“Working the birds” is easy when you know how. And Clint Bradford K6LCS showed a crowd of 38 how to do it. In a professionally fine-tuned presentation Clint walked through the basic components of getting started — knowing what satellites are available, frequencies, Doppler shifts and up to the minutes passes, the type of handheld that works best and simple best practices to make you successful.

Clint is an AMSAT ambassador for this facet of the hobby and it showed. Entertaining and informative were the operative words of the day.

For more information, Clint has created a support Web site at work-sat.com for all. The web site has become a one-stop source for ALL the citations and equipment recommendations and software suggestions made in the presentation.

Thanks to Clint for a fine job and his nice words about FLARC!

Improvements to Memorial Park in Fair Lawn

The Borough has recently added a paved pathway leading from the parking lot to the pavilion where we hold both Field and Portable Day. This should make it easier for those using wheelchairs or with other restrictions to use the park.

A very necessary improvement!



Theoretics Demystified, continued

although there were still many 1A2 key systems which were electromechanical at the customer's business site. The 1A2 key system gave way to the PBX, or Private Branch Exchange, which was in the early days electro mechanical but rapidly gave way to electronic systems. Equipment from a room of relays to a small cabinet on the wall.

Most recently the traditional phone system has given way to the Power Over Ethernet, [VOIP variant] which uses Ethernet cabling and programming which tell the phone how to work. These generally use a cable connection to access the internet which is where the phone calling takes place, but not for long as now there is a push to provide internet connectivity without cable wiring using over the air services.

What does this have to do with Ham Radio? Everything! The two technologies have been technologically developing at the same rate throughout the years!

I hope that this has been an interesting sidelight for you the reader!

73,

Frederick Wawra, W2ABE

"Portable Day" — Sat., October 16th

Hosted by Fair Lawn ARC [FLARC] and
Bergen Amateur Radio Association [BARA]

Portable Day has become a tradition with FLARC, usually twice each year. In recent years, we have invited BARA to join with us on the same day.

It's a day to try out your portable stuff, and to see what and how others use theirs; and BARA will be supplying some picnic nibbles as well!

Our PortableOps SIG folks will be on hand to offer hints and demonstrations ... and our EmComm SIG might be doing some demos of using FLdigi and maybe WinLink from the field operations.

Arrive at Fair Lawn Memorial Park (same place we do Field Day) any time after 08:00 ET and stay as long as you like -- usually to about 14:00.

Any questions, contact Gene WO2W.

In A Nutshell



It's that time of year again when we have to shift gears and start thinking about the colder weather. Hope that all of the outside projects are done, or soon to be finished, especially any antenna projects.

It is time again to put out the pumpkins for display to remind us that it is harvest time! But most importantly, we can turn on the radio and get back to 75 meters and other bands for us on HF and of course for the rag chewers like me on the 75 meter band.

Now that the nights are longer it affords us more time to get on the air and visit with our other ham friends on 75 phone [for me] or CW for those of you with the ear for it.

It is also time to put down the gardening tools and pick up the soldering iron and dive into kit building!

There are still probably a couple of ham fests left to go to and in November there is the swap meet for the New Jersey Antique Radio Club at the Parsippany PAL. And don't forget the annual FLARC Auction on the day after Thanksgiving!

Do not forget to go to the ARRL website and keep current with the happenings in the ham radio world! Keep safe and in contact!

73!

Fred Wawra W2ABE



Report from Portable Ops SIG, cont'd

have its own radio station (W2TMR) but James has his own equipment and a dipole strung at his cottage. James & I played on his radio for a little while, where I managed to work my first two POTAs on 17 meters. The first was K1LOK at K-3064 in Utah and the second was VA6MWA at VE-1166 in Alberta. Shortly after that, I was able to work 4L2M in Georgia [Russia] which was a new DXCC for me on 20 meters. The best contact of my visit was working ZG2GI on 20 meters who was transmitting from the top of the Rock of Gibraltar for SOTA activation ZB2/GI-001.

After a nice visit with James it was time to get on the road back towards home. I decided to take a different route home so that I could activate two final parks which count as a 2-fer (one location counts for 2 different parks). I took Route 97 along the Delaware River to the Mongaup Valley Wildlife Management Area POTA K-9140 on the Sullivan County & Orange County border.

Because the Mongaup Valley W.M.A. is along the Delaware River it was also valid for the Upper Delaware National Wild and Scenic River POTA K-0681. I arrived at the parks at 1820 hours and started panicking because I had no cell service to post my activation. I scanned 40 meters until I finally found a POTA activation and I kindly asked one of the Hunters to spot me on 7.225 MHz.

Once I was spotted the pileup quickly started. In the 40 minutes I was active I managed to log 74 contacts. I decided not to attempt 20 meters because I did not want to try and find another operator to spot me with the band change.

It was a very enjoyable visit with James at the Boy Scout Camp and the 5 parks that I was able to activate for the first time on the way up and on the way home was the icing on the cake.

I highly recommend taking a leisure ride around the quad state area and activating a few parks that you have never visited before.

— by Brian Duddy N2BTD



For FLARC membership info and renewal/application form please visit:

membership.FairLawnARC.org

FLARC Dues, new and renewal, (and even donations!) can now be made on-line ...

[Please note that this is a temporary improvement while Dave KD2JIP works on a real, full-fledged web page for filling out the membership/renewal form and submitting that and payment on-line.]

Payments can be made using either PayPal or Zelle.

Here's how –

Using PayPal —

Log into your PayPal account at

<https://www.paypal.com>

At top right, select "My PayPal"

Under Quick links, select "Send Money"

In the window showing
Name, email or mobile number
enter this email address:

1947xyzabc1947@gmail.com

Click on [Next]

Enter \$ amount you are sending, & in "add a note" area type in your CALL SIGN and which year (2020 or 2021) the dues are for, & any other explanation.

Click on [Continue]

Click on the [Change] button

Click on "Sending to a friend" link

CONTINUED IN NEXT COLUMN —>



Sending to a friend

No fee to use bank or balance to send to friends and family in the U.S.

You will see a summary of your transaction; if no changes are required, click on

[Send Payment Now]

to complete your transaction.

\$

Using Zelle —

If you are using Zelle through your bank account, just send your dues to the following number: 201-240-9317

Don't forget to add in the note/message section your callsign and that it is for your 2020 and/or 2021 dues.

OR you can still use a good ol' Check or Money Order payable to FLARC - always put your Call Sign and "dues for 2020" (or 2021) on the check. MAIL TO:

Bruce Kalogera, NJ2BS
163 Meadow Lane
Secaucus, NJ 07094

October 2021

FLARC Business Meeting

Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club Secretary's Minutes Prepared by Tom McCabe N2AXX Business Meeting of October 1, 2021

The meeting was called to order by President Nomar NP4H, at the Fair Lawn Rec' Center and via Zoom video teleconference at 7:30 pm and concluded at 8:37pm.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited at 7:31 pm

Tom N2AXX facilitated a roll call and a quorum was established:

- President: Nomar Vizcarrondo, NP4H
- Vice President: John Howard, W2JLH
- Treasurer: Bruce Kalogera, NJ2BK
- Secretary: Tom McCabe, N2AXX
- Trustees (3): Don Cassarini, K2PD
Ed Efchak, WX2R
Fred Wawra, W2ABE

Note: ~ 41 participants attended this hybrid meeting between in person at the Rec' Center (18) and via Zoom video teleconference (23).

September 2021 FLARC Business Meeting Minutes were published in the September 2021 edition of *The Resonator*. A motion to accept the minutes was presented and accepted by Bill WA2WL and seconded by Noel W2MSA.

Treasurer's Report: presented by Bruce NJ2BK and included current account balances. Full report was sent to the FLARC board prior to the meeting.

Visitors: Wilson KD2UXE
San Kim, call and license pending
Mike Volpe, New FLARC member, call and license pending

Committee reports

Technical: Brad KM2C and Paul W2IP highlighted the need for a work party to go over the antennas, Yagi alignment, cabling, and tower mechanics. Climbing and protective equipment is available. Contact Brad KM2C if interested. The goal is a small group confident in climbing and completing the work before cold weather sets in. Jim W2JC announced that there are trouble report forms in the clubhouse in the literature rack - if you experience any issues while operating W2NPT or using club equipment, please complete a form and leave it on the office desk. Stephen WA2BYX presented several ideas for antenna improvements e.g. mono-band and verticals.

Continued on next page.

October 2021 FLARC Business Meeting, continued

Publicity: Ed WX2R reported on our upcoming October Kawfee Talk: Yagi Antenna Design and Tutorial by Kent Britain WA5VJB on Oct. 15, 2021. Fair Lawn Street Fair scheduled for Oct. 24th is cancelled. The FLARC Member Survey will be sent out December 2021 and the results will be issued 1st Quarter 2022. Please submit your thoughts and ideas pertaining to the survey to Ed WX2R through WX2R@arrl.net. Borough of Fair Lawn, James Graff, sent a thank you letter to FLARC for supporting communications at the borough's recent fireworks.

Website: Jim W2JC reminded attendees to watch the FLARC homepage for news and activities: <http://FairLawnARC.org> Don't forget to keep an eye on the Groups.io Calendar: <https://FairLawnARC.groups.io/g/main/calendar> Contact the FLARC Webmaster with any questions Webmaster@FairLawnARC.org. All club business from meeting to Kawfee Talks are covered on the homepage and calendar. There is a new FLARC special interest group (SIG) and Groups.io link for Contesting headed up by Van W2DLT. Van will start covering contests in The Resonator as well.

Social Media: Thom W2NZ reported that there are 12-15 new FLARC YouTube Channel subscribers every month. Thom noted that FLARC had 1,345 views in September. More content is being viewed and for a longer duration. The Larry Van Horn Military Monitoring Kawfee Tawk™ and Brian KD2KLN Solar Battery presentations have been posted recently.

RACES/ARES: Dave KD2MOB reported that the EMCOMM Groups.io mailbox is live and subscriptions are building. ARES simulated emergency test (SET) will take place Saturday, Oct. 2 at 12, 3-and 6pm via W2NPT. Check in with KB2FLA for the ARES-SET and exchange location, and general operating conditions. FLARC-BARA Portable Day October 16 where our ARES will demonstrate FLDIGI. The second "RF Signal, Simplex Coverage Drill" will be conducted October 30 across Bergen, Passaic, Hudson, and Essex Counties. The objective is to assess what can be done RF coverage wise with portable and mobile stations across these four counties. Watch the FLARC calendar for the pending FLARC amateur radio demonstration to Fair Lawn CERT on a Tuesday or Thursday evening at FLARC. Technical Committee to discuss moving ALØY's WinLink system over to the W2NPT repeater, due to interference matters Aly has in Wayne.

VE Sessions: Gene WO2W said that there will be a VE Session on Oct. 9th at the Fair Lawn Rec Ctr. Right now there are three registrants. Remember pre-registration is required to coordinate the required forms and fee. The VE Session will be held at the Fair Lawn Rec Center, 10-10 20th Street. Contact Gene WO2W genewo2w@gmail.com and take your exam through FLARC. Gene will have the FLARC clubhouse open to club members for on-air operation 9:00-11:30 am Oct. 9th, while the VE exams are being conducted.

Field Day: John W2JLH reported that ARRL 2022 Field Day Rules are pending. John is hoping for a normal Field Day in June. Winter 2022 Field Day is in the planning stages.

Continued on next page.

October 2021 FLARC Business Meeting, continued

Special Interest Groups

Monitoring: No report

POTA: SIG is very active and Noel W2MSA presented a summary of the interest and activity within FLARC and all that is being done about portable HF operation in area parks. Too many to capture all, however, W2MSA, WI2W, N2BTD, KB2FMH, KA2YRA are active weekly from one or more locations. Fred W2AAB was recognized as FLARC's "Top POTA Hunter" spotting and listening for many FLARC'ers hitting the road and operating from official POTA locations.

Digital Voice: No report.

Dx'ing: No report.

New Business:

FLARC Auction: 2021 FLARC Auction will be held Friday, Nov. 26th and is chaired by Bill Leger WA2WL. Dave KD2JIP was recognized for developing a website and payment method. A "Tag Team" of auctioneers and runners are being picked. Kitchen operation and do-ability are under consideration in the sense of being profitable. Entrance fee will be \$5 for all entrants. No exceptions. Raffle tickets will be sold as six for \$5.

Ham Fest 2022: Gene WO2W reported that June 4, 2022 is the targeted date. FLARC will present a request to the Borough of Fair Lawn in Jan. 2022 requesting the use of Memorial Park for the FLARC 2nd Annual Ham-Fest.

FLARC 2022 Officer / Trustee Elections: The "slate" (Nominating Committee's group of candidates) was completed by Ed WX2R and Fred W2ABE and presented by Ed WX2R. Nominations from the floor may be presented at the November 2021 business meeting. 2022 officer and trustee elections will be held at the December 2021 annual business meeting.

FLARC 2022 Officer and Trustee Candidates:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|--------|
| • For President: | John Howard | W2JLH |
| • For Vice-President: | Dave Corselo | KD2JIP |
| • For Secretary: | Tom McCabe | N2AXX |
| • For Treasurer: | Bruce Kalogera | NJ2BK |
| • For Trustee: (3 year term) | Dave Gotlib | KD2MOB |

Health & Welfare: Judith reported Skip's (KD2BRV) wife had a set-back and that she is improving. Larry WA2ALY aka "Captain Larry" has been recently hospitalized. Gene WO2W's daughter-in-law was involved in a serious motor vehicle accident and is recovering.

Adjournment: A motion to close the meeting was presented by Brad KM2C and KD2KLN seconded the motion at 8:37pm.

Respectfully submitted October 2, 2021 by Tom McCabe N2AXX

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Tom N2AXX